LV.

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AND

POLITE LITERATURE.

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M. TARVER & H. COBB, Editors and Proprietors.

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THE

WESTERN JOURNAL

and Civilian.

VOL. IX. October, 1852. No. I.

ARTICLE I.

The Public Domain.—Homestead Bill.

Of the causes which have retarded the advancement of civilization in Europe, none have been more fruitful of social evils than the unjust distribution of the lands amongst its inhabitants. And although some of the most objectionable principles of the European systems have been repudiated in the United States, yet, we are persuaded that the views of our public economists and statesmen are confused and ill-defined in respect to the disposition and management of the public domain in this country.

Our system, which regards the public domain as a source of revenue, was forced upon us by the embarrassed condition of the nation at the close of the revolutionary war; and in view of the small number of our population, the great extent of territory, and the undeveloped condition of our resources, the early policy of the government in respect to the public lands, was probably the best that could have been devised. But the national debt which then existed having been paid, and the resources of the country more fully developed, the reasons which indicated the policy adopted in the first stages of our national existence have ceased; and now it is our duty to inquire whether that policy should not cease also.

A property in a considerable portion of the soil is one of the strong pillars of monarchical governments; and a permanent aristocracy can only be sustained by the possession of large estates in land. Property in the soil, held for the purposes of revenue, is inconsistent with the nature of republican governments. For the government emanating from the people, whatever property it pos-

sesses, must necessarily be derived either directly or indirectly from the same source. If the government acquires title by purchase or conquest, it can only be regarded as a depository, a trustee, possessing no right to the usufruct without the consent of its constituents. In a pecuniary point of view, the wealth of the nation would be increased as much by giving the public lands to settlers as by selling them at any price whatsoever to our own citizens. But, nevertheless, it may not be the best policy to dispose of them in that way; nor would such a measure be just; for if the lands possess any pecuniary value in their unimproved condition, the individual who should obtain a tract by donation would receive that much more of the common property of the people than he who might be prevented by circumstances from enjoying a similar privilege.

That our present land system is not in conformity with the genius of our institutions, is manifested by the desire of change which prevails in almost every part of the Union, and also from the many schemes proposed in Congress for its modification.

We have, heretofore, discussed the merits of a Bill introduced by Senator Douglass, at the first session of the thirty-first Congress, proposing to grant "one hundred and sixty acres of the public lands to the actual settler, who shall reside thereon and shall cultivate a portion thereof, for the period of four years," and in the same paper we submitted our own views in respect to a change in the existing laws concerning the public domain. We now propose to examine some of the measures presented during the session of Congress which has recently closed.

The Homestead Bill of the late session is based upon the leading idea of Senator Douglass's Bill of the preceding Congress; but differs materially in its details. We copy it entire, as we find it published in the Evansville Journal, for the benefit of our readers.

HOMESTEAD BILL.

"*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That any person who is the head of a family and a citizen of the United States, or any person who is the head of a family, and had become a citizen prior to the first day of January, eighteen hundred and fifty-two, as required by the naturalization laws of the United States, shall, from and after the passage of this act, be entitled to

* Vide the Western Journal, Vol. III, Page 281.

enter, free of cost, one quarter section of vacant and unappropriated public lands, or a quantity equal thereto, to be located in a body in conformity with the legal subdivisions of the public lands, and after the same shall have been surveyed.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the person applying for the benefit of this act shall upon application to the register of the land office in which he or she is about to make such entry, make affidavit before the said register that he or she is the head of a family, and is not the owner of any estate in land at the time of such application, and has not disposed of any estate in land to obtain the benefits of this act; and, upon making the affidavit as above required, and filing the affidavit with the register, he or she shall thereupon be permitted to enter the quantity of land already specified. *Provided, however*, That no certificate shall be given or patent issued therefor until the expiration of five years from the date of such entry; and if, at the expiration of such time, the person making such entry, be dead, his wi low, or, in case of her death, his heirs or devisee; or, in case of a widow making such entry, her heirs or devisee, in case of her death, shall prove by two credible witnesses that he, she, or they have continued to reside upon and cultivate said land, and still reside upon the same, have not alienated the same, or any part thereof, then in such case, he, she, or they shall be entitled to a patent, as in other cases provided for by law. *And provided further*, That in case of the death of both father and mother, leaving an infant child or children under fourteen years of age, the right and the fee shall inure to the benefit of said infant child or children; and the executor, administrator, or guardian may at any time within two years after the death of the surviving parent, sell said land for the benefit of such infants, but for no other purpose; and the purchaser shall acquire the absolute title by the purchase, and be entitled to a patent from the United States.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the register of the land office shall note all such applications on the tract books and plats of the office, and keep a register of all such entries, and make return thereof to the General Land Office, together with the proof upon which they have been founded.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That all land acquired under the provisions of this act shall in no event become liable to the satisfaction of any debt or debts contracted prior to the issuing the patent therefor.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That if, any time after filing the affidavit as required in the second section of this act, and before the expiration of the five years aforesaid, it shall be proven by two or more respectable witnesses, upon oath, to the satisfaction of the register of the land office, that the person having filed such affidavit shall have actually changed his or her residence, or abandoned the said entry for more than six months at any one

time, then, and in that event, the land so entered shall revert back to the Government, and be disposed of as other public lands are now by law.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That if any individual, now a resident of any one of the States or Territories, and not a citizen of the United States, but at the time of making such application for the benefit of this act shall have filed a declaration of intention as required by the naturalization laws of the United States, and shall become a citizen of the same before the issuance of the patent, as made and provided in this act, shall be placed upon an equal footing with the native born citizen of the United States.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That no individual shall be permitted to make more than one entry under the provisions of this act; and that the Commissioner of the General Land Office is hereby required to prepare and issue such rules and regulations consistent with this act as shall be necessary and proper to carry its provisions into effect; and that the registers and receivers of the several land offices shall be entitled to receive the same compensation for any lands patented under the provisions of this act, that they are now entitled to receive when the same quantity of land is entered with money, to be paid by the party to whom the patent shall be issued; *Provided, however*, That all persons entering land under the provisions of this act, shall, as near as may be practicable, in making such entries, be confined to each alternate quarter section, and on land subject to private entry; *And provided further*, That nothing in this act shall be so construed as to impair or interfere in any matter whatever with existing pre-emption rights.

The bill was then passed—yeas 107, nays 55."

The large vote by which this bill passed in the House of Representatives warrants the belief that the measure will be brought up again at the next session, and hence the propriety of discussing the subject at the present time. Now with due deference to the one hundred and seven members of Congress who voted for this Bill, we are compelled to say that to our view it appears more like a popular movement on the part of its advocates, than a measure originating in the patriotic and wise conceptions of statesmen whose minds are capable of comprehending the subject in all its bearings. If the settlement and cultivation of the public lands were the chief objects aimed at they should have been opened to the occupation of all classes without restriction; or, if the object was to assist the poor, none should have been entitled to a grant who were able to purchase. The Bill contemplates a division of the citizens of the United States into two classes: landholders and

non-landholders. An individual possessed of a few acres of poor land which, with all the labor he can bestow upon it, scarcely yields bread sufficient to support his family, can take nothing by the provisions of this law unless he gives his land away; while one whose estate consists in personal property only is entitled to one hundred and sixty acres, though he may possess money to the amount of a million dollars. Besides, a large portion of those who own no land in the old States, do not possess means which will enable them to remove their families five hundred or a thousand miles, and sustain them in a new country, until they can build a shelter, open a farm, and raise a crop; therefore, that class which of all others stands in most need of assistance will receive no benefit.

Again, more than one million of foreigners have landed in the United States within the last four years, and but a small portion of these, we imagine, have purchased land: many of them possess money, and are able to purchase. Hence it is doubtless true that a much larger proportion of our foreign than of our native population would be benefitted by the measure under consideration. This is an incidental discrimination, it is true, but it proves the want of statesmanship on the part of those who framed and voted for the Bill.

Another instance of incidental discrimination is found in the fourth section of the Bill, which declares that "all lands acquired under the provisions of this act shall in no event become liable to the satisfaction of any debt or debts contracted prior to the issuing the patent therefor." Now there is no provision in the Bill requiring the occupant to apply for his patent at the end of the five years; hence he may hold the land during his life without a patent, and may devise it, or it will descend to his heirs exempt from the operation of all contracts made by their ancestor; nor would it be subject to taxation, we imagine, until the patent was issued.

It may be admitted that Congress possesses the right of donating the public land to individuals upon such conditions as it may deem proper to annex; but we hold that it has no power to exempt the land thus donated from the operations of the laws of the State in which it is located, after the donee has complied with the conditions and received a title. By the laws of Missouri the real estate which an individual acquires, no matter from what source, is liable to the satisfaction of contracts entered into before as well after such

acquisition; and we cannot assent to the proposition that Congress possesses the power of modifying this rule in a sovereign State. With equal propriety it might exempt lands purchased at public sale from being liable to the satisfaction of debts previously contracted by the purchaser. Under this provision an individual possessing large means, but in failing circumstances, may take possession of one hundred and sixty acres of public land, build a palace on it, and make other expensive improvements; and then setting his creditors at defiance, spend his days in luxurious indulgence, provided he is not the owner of land elsewhere, or has not sold other lands with a view to the benefits to be derived from this law. But should he be so unfortunate as to possess other land, it would require but little ingenuity to procure it to be sold for the payment of his debts, and thus remove his disability.

It is impossible to establish any data from which we can estimate the quantity of land that will be taken by the beneficiaries contemplated in this bill. That every acre of the public domain, not otherwise disposed of, is liable to be taken under its provisions there is no doubt. For according to our construction the first proviso of the 7th section does not limit the grants to alternate quarter sections merely. Certain persons described in the bill are entitled to land which shall, "as near as may be practicable," be taken in alternate quarter sections, but the right to enter does not cease when all the alternate sections shall have been occupied: that right will still continue under the law as long as any public land remains. Nor can any calculation be made that could be regarded as approximating the truth in respect to the number of persons composing the class provided for by the bill; for like waters flowing from an exhaustless fountain, the absorption of the stream will not reduce the source from which it springs. The unceasing changes in the condition of men will continually add to the non-landholding class. It may be fairly assumed that not more than one man in five in the United States is the owner of land at the time of his marriage, and from this source alone the number of claimants will continually be increased until all the lands worth owning are occupied.

To enable the reader to form some idea of the number of persons composing the class entitled to claim lands under this bill, and also to show how little time it will require to dispose of the public domain by virtue of its provisions, we have assumed the

the following data as a basis of calculation. Estimating the white population in 1853 at 22,000,000, and seven individuals to a family, and then assuming that one family out of every ten belongs to the non-landholding class, we have 314,285 families destitute of land who would be entitled to 50,285,600 acres. And assuming that one marriage for every two hundred of the population takes place annually, and that in four cases out of five the parties own no land, it will require 6,180,000 acres annually to supply these with homesteads. Now let us estimate the quantity of lands owned by the government, and in a condition to be divided amongst these beneficiaries.

By an official report from the proper department it appears that on the first of January, 1849, there remained of the public domain in the twelve new States which contain public land, 245,913,343 acres unappropriated. Now deduct 20,000,000, which is about the quantity which will have been disposed of at the end of the present year including Mexican war claims &c.; 22,000,000 acres which will be required according to the estimate of the Secretary of the Interior, to satisfy the claims under the bounty land law of 25th September, 1850; 5,000,000 acres donated to railroads; 25,000,000* acres swamp lands granted to the States, and 2,000,000 acres Mexican war claims not located, and there will remain about 172,000,000 acres unappropriated. Much of this land has been in market more than twenty years, and it is safe to affirm that at least one half of it is absolutely worthless for the purposes of cultivation until improved by the aid of science. Deduct one half for poor land, and there will remain 86,000,000 acres. Now if we assume that one half of the non-landholders will take the benefit of the law, there will then remain about 61,000,000 acres, which would only be sufficient to endow the marriages for ten years, but if we suppose that only half of these should claim, and that the changes which take place in the condition of the population should create a demand for 1,000,000 acres annually, in that case all the arable land in the twelve States would be taken in fifteen years. But if we deduct the 38,288,340 acres proposed to be distributed amongst the States for railroads

* The quantity of swamp lands reported by the Register, is 20,785,336; but it is obvious that the entire quantity had not then been reported by the Surveyors, for only 562,170 acres were set down for Florida in which, as we believe, there will be found not less than 5,000,000.

and schools, to say nothing of the quantity proposed to be appropriated for the benefit of the indigent Insane, and other purposes, then the quantity of arable land left for marriages &c. would be reduced to about 23,000,000 acres which would be taken according to the data assumed in about five years.

We have confined these estimates to the twelve States, because they contain nearly all the land to which the Indian title has been extinguished on this side of New Mexico and the Rocky Mountains; and because we are fully persuaded that under the most rigid construction of this Homestead Bill, the class of persons which it is designed to benefit, will be sufficiently numerous to occupy the whole of the public domain in future, as fast as it will be acquired by the government from the Indians. We do not affirm that all the lands would be taken by those entitled to them under the provisions of this bill; but we do confidently predict that from and after the period of two years from the passage of the bill the money accruing from the sale of the public lands would never again exceed the cost of surveying and other expenses incident to their management, to say nothing of the price paid to the Indians.

Now, we ask the people of the United States if they desire such a change in our land system as will result from the passage of this bill? Are the people of the old States content to abandon the public lands as a source of revenue? Are the landholders and manufacturers in those States willing to part with their best laborers and operatives, many of whom, attracted to the new States and territories by this law, will doubtless emigrate, unless their wages are greatly increased? Are those of the new States willing to see the country filled up from the ranks of paupers, to give up all hope of improving the commercial and traveling facilities of the West and South, and of establishing a liberal and permanent fund for schools by the aid of the public lands? Having paid for their own lands, and suffered the privations incident to settling a new country, are they willing to see the unsold land, improved in value by their own toil, donated to strangers with the privilege of holding it against the just claims of creditors, and exempt from taxation, while the market value of their own land will be depreciated by the operation of this unjust policy?

But our objections to this bill are not confined to the unjust operations of its details: we object to it because throughout all its provisions it contemplates the special benefit of classes and indi-

viduals, and contains none of those comprehensive conceptions which characterize a national measure.* It belongs to that class of legislation which looks to the temporary relief of individuals without providing for the improvement of the general condition of the nation. It encourages the people to look to the Government for support rather than to their own well directed exertions, and, withal, it is calculated to beget and cherish a spirit of aggression, and a desire for the conquest of other countries. There is a praiseworthy humanity in administering to the wants of the needy, and in affording them the means of improving their condition; but should Congress donate all the public lands to the settlers, it will not improve the condition of either the old or new States; it may be the means of increasing the population of the latter more rapidly, but the gain in numbers would not compensate the want of intelligence, enterprise and capital, on the part of the emigrants. Nor can we see any reason for supposing that in a national point of view the next generation would, in any respect, be benefitted by the measure. For notwithstanding the great extent of our public domain, the present generation will not pass away before every part of it worth cultivating will be fully occupied; and whether it be sold or whether it be given away will, in our opinion, make little or no difference in the condition of the succeeding generation.

The public domain of the United States may be regarded as an immense source of moral and political power; and if managed with wisdom, this power may be preserved and enlarged for the benefit of the nation throughout an indefinite period of time. Let a portion of it be applied to the construction of great lines of railways, calculated to bring the inhabitants of the Atlantic coast in speedy communication with the dwellers on the shores of the broad Pacific; and others that will bring the people of the South in close communion with those of the extreme north; and along these iron bonds, as the electric fluid along the wires of the telegraph, a current of human sympathy will continually flow in every direction throughout the land, harmonizing the hearts as well as the interests of those most distant from each other. Then, let another portion be appropriated for the indigent Insane, as already proposed in Con-

* It may be proper to state that in our review of Senator Douglass's Bill we favored the measure of donating 80 acres of land to each settler on the public land, but subsequent reflection has changed our opinion on that point.

gress. But above all let us appropriate an amount to the purposes of education which shall be sufficient to ensure a reasonable degree of instruction to all the indigent of the respective States, to the end of time. The public domain is quite sufficient for the accomplishment of all these objects,—national attainments which would make the American people the marvel of the earth, and the means of improving the condition of all other nations.

With such glorious objects in view, and possessing ample means for their attainment, the nation will stultify itself and disappoint the just expectations of mankind, if, like an inexperienced youth, —a spendthrift,—it should squander its rich inheritance upon transient objects, and divest itself of the power bestowed upon it by a benevolent Providence for the benefit of future generations.

With a view to the objects enumerated we would abolish the policy of looking to the public land as a source of national revenue. But continuing their management under the control of the General Government, we would, after a judicious appropriation to the purposes of internal improvement and education, subject the price to a scale of graduation regulated by the time the land had been in market, and within a reasonable time after they had reached the minimum, convey them to the respective States in which they lie. By this plan a few years would put an end to the ownership of the soil on the part of the nation in the respective States, a consummation in all respects to be desired by all parties. The money accruing from the sales might be held by the general government, until distributed among the States according to such rule as Congress should agree upon.

By adopting this policy, and refusing grants to individuals, even for public services, a salutary check would be put to the popular desire for conquest, and there would be less danger of getting into wars with other nations.

GENERAL RAILROAD BILL.

This is another measure respecting the public domain which was discussed at the late session of Congress, and from the favor it received in that body it will, in all probability, be renewed at the approaching session. Judging from the nature of its provisions, we conclude that it was intended by the old States as a compromise by which they were to receive a part of the public domain for the support of schools in consideration of certain donations to the new

States in aid of railroads. Thus far the conception was just: for regarding the public land as the common property of the nation, no one could deny that the old States were entitled to an equitable share of the benefits to be derived from them. But when we come to examine the details, the terms of this compromise, we find the advantages, so far as respects a division of the land, all on the side of the old States.

Let us see how the account stands, at present, against the new States. Assuming that they have all received an equal quantity of land in proportion to the area of each, we will examine the account of Missouri, and regard it as representing the condition of all. This State has received for common schools, consisting of the sixteen sections, 1,108,073 acres; for internal improvements, exclusive of the recent donations to railroads, 500,000 acres; for University 46,080 acres; for seat of Government 2,560 acres; and is entitled to a sum of money, the three per cent. fund accruing from sales of land in the State, which is equal to the proceeds of about 300,000 acres: amounting in all to 1,956,713 acres. Now, without claiming any credit for the value imparted to the public domain by the settlement and improvements made by the people of Missouri, let us see what further donation this Bill proposes to make, and how much the revenue accruing from sales of the public lands is likely to be diminished by the grant. Missouri will be entitled by the provisions of the Bill to a quantity of land, which added to the quantity granted at the late session in aid of railroads, will amount to 3,000,000 acres; but in this as in the other new States the land must be applied exclusively to the construction of railroads. The second section of the act provides that the land shall "be taken along the entire length of the line or route of said several railroads, so far as the United States own lands on the line of said several roads, in manner following, viz: every alternate section of land designated by even numbers for six miles in width on each side of said several roads." And it is further provided that in case any even numbers within six miles of the road shall have been sold, then the quantity shall be made up by alternate tracts to be taken from lands most contiguous to the tiers of sections first specified; and it declares that said lands shall be sold and disposed of only as the work on said roads progresses. Now, it is to be observed that the States are not allowed the privilege of making selections: they must take tracts designated by even num-

bers whether they be rich or poor, and in case no road should be made, they get no land. It may be admitted that these grants are as beneficial to the new States as they would be in case the revenue of the United States was diminished to the full extent of their value; but when the measure is regarded as one of compromise proposing a distribution of the public domain among the States, the injustice of the scheme is so glaring that one is almost surprised that any member of Congress possessed sufficient boldness to propose it.

Whatever public lands may be worth at a distance of from fifty to one hundred miles from a navigable stream or railroad, no intelligent man of the present day will deny that the construction of a railroad leading to a market would double their average value in money, for the distance of six miles from the line. Then, in substance, the proposition resolves itself into this: if the State of Missouri will, by the application of her capital and labor, add one hundred per cent. to the present value of 3,000,000 acres of public land, Congress will remunerate her by a grant of an equal quantity. Thus far the proposition is equitable; but the old States are not willing that it should rest upon this ground: they insist that in addition to a fair equivalent they shall receive the proceeds of certain quantities of land for their assent to a fair bargain.

The old States, respectively, demand a quantity of land equal to 150,000 acres for each of their Senators and Representatives in Congress, which they are authorized (not required,) to apply to the support of schools. In Missouri one section out of thirty-six has been reserved by Congress for schools, which amounts to 1,-108,073 acres. But the State was not allowed to select it: each township was compelled to take the sixteenth section, be it rich or poor. By the provisions of this bill, New York is entitled to 5,-400,000 acres; equal to one acre for about every five acres and a half of her own land. And more than this, the holders of the warrants to be granted in her behalf, have the privilege of selecting for themselves; which makes the grant worth at least fifty per cent. more than if the State were compelled to take by certain numbers without regard to quality. New York, in area, about one third less than Missouri, would receive for the support of schools, by virtue of this bill, about 450,000 acres more than the amount of all the lands granted to Missouri since its admission into the Union, including the 3,000,000 acres proposed by this measure. Indeed,

she would even receive more land in proportion to the number of her Senators and Representatives in Congress, than Missouri has hitherto received for the support of schools; and, besides, her assignees have the privilege of making selections. As a rule by which to determine the mode of dividing the public lands amongst the old States, that contained in the Bill may be fair; but as between the old and new States it would be obviously unjust to make a division according to the number of Senators and Representatives in Congress. But when we look into the merits of the Bill, and regard the public domain as the common property of the nation, it is evident that while it is proposed to give the old States 150,000 acres of land for each Senator and Representatives in Congress, the new States are to get nothing except what they pay for; in effect, they are required to add as much to the value of the common property as they take out.

Besides, while the grants proposed to be made to the new States are calculated to increase the revenue by encouraging sales, those proposed in favor of the old States will put an end to almost all sales for cash for a considerable number of years. The latter will be entitled to warrants covering 29,250,000 acres which, with the bounty land warrants and the Mexican war claims unlocated, will swell the amount to over 50,000,000 acres; which, at the rate of entries since 1849, will supply the market for more than ten years. During all this time the old States would enjoy a revenue accruing from what is now the common property of the nation, while the new States would receive nothing without an equivalent.

We say again, we are in favor of giving up the public domain as a source of national revenue; and we desire that, according to some just rule, the benefits to be derived from them should be enjoyed in an equal degree by the people of all the States: not during the present generation only, but throughout all time. But we protest against the distribution of the public lands, upon the principles involved in Mr. Bennett's Bill; and especially against the idea that the new States become debtors to the old on account of lands granted in aid of railroads on the terms proposed. Instead of being founded on principles of liberality and national justice, the Bill, in all its details, denotes the shrewd conceptions of a sharper, seeking to obtain an advantage over a weak and inexperienced individual.

When the new States ask for lands in aid of railroads, they are

met by the objection that they are claiming too large a share of the public domain. Even the incidental benefits which may possibly accrue from the construction of public works are charged against them, as so much of the common property advanced; and great caution is exercised to prevent a diminution of the public revenue, while the same body pass a Bill, by a vote of about two to one, which is calculated to put an end to the perception of all revenue from that source in future.

In reviewing the proceedings of the last and present Congress, the conclusion is forced upon us that, instead of being viewed as a source of national glory calculated to improve and elevate the social and intellectual condition of the whole people, the public domain is beginning to be regarded merely as a political fund which may be bartered away and gambled for by individual States and speculating politicians without the slightest regard to national objects. And while these things are being enacted, we regret to observe that the conductors of the public press,—the sentinels upon the watch-tower of the nation,—seem to be slumbering at their posts, as though they had been drugged. None of them, as far as we have observed, have taken upon themselves the trouble of analysing the measures touching the public domain lately under consideration in Congress. The title of the Homestead Bill appeals to the popular sentiment; Bennett's Bill addresses itself to the prejudices and interests of the old States; a presidential election is pending; and neither party dare openly to oppose these measures. Such at least is the aspect in which the subject is presented to our view. If in these remarks we do injustice to the public press, their vindication of themselves against the imputation of neglecting a great national interest will afford us pleasure.

The policy to be pursued in disposing of the public domain is the great question of the age—of more importance than a dozen presidential elections—and, we respectfully, but earnestly, invoke the people as well as the conductors of the press, especially of the West, to give the subject a critical and close investigation.

ARTICLE II.

WISCONSIN.*

At the opening of the 19th century, the "Territory North-West of the Ohio" was an unbroken wilderness, shared in doubtful supremacy, by the aboriginal man, and the other denizens of the forest and prairie.

It were needless to except from the universality of this description, the occasional advent of the Indian trader, the nascent settlements on the Ohio, which were attempting a precarious existence, or the Military posts which were pushed into this outer domain of our Republic, in token of our political dominion, and as heralds of an advancing civilization.

In 1802, the State of Ohio was carved out of the body of the North-West, and admitted into the federal Union. Steadily advancing in population, wealth and respectability to its present enviable position in our political system, her brief but impressive history commands the admiration of older communities, and awakens the generous emulation of the new. Her population, in 1850, had reached nearly 2,000,000, souls, and she ranks the third in the sisterhood of States.

The history of Ohio has been the history, in succession, of Indiana, Illinois and Michigan. Their advance has been, in like manner, rapid in population and in the other elements of political greatness. The four States, above enumerated, contained in 1850, 4,000,000 of freemen.

Surprising as these results are, transcending all that the world had previously known of the creation of new political communities, by the peaceful migration of men and of the arts, distancing even, all previous experience in the settlement of the new world, it might seem enough for Wisconsin, the youngest of the creations of the Ordinance of '87, to say, that she is of the North-West, and shares with her kindred States, in the experience of a like early development.

But to say this, is not enough. The settlement of Wisconsin has thus far been on a scale, unapproached even by that of the four States above enumerated, and constituting with her, the area long familiarly known as the "Territory North-West of the Ohio."

That this is not a vain boast, is a fact too broadly and familiarly known, to need the formality of demonstration. For the satisfaction of the curious, however, there is appended hereto a tabular

* We are indebted to our highly esteemed friend, J. H. Lathrop, Chancellor of the University of the State of Wisconsin, for the following interesting account of the settlement and growth of that wonderful young State. The source from which we received the pamphlet warrants its publication in our Journal as historical matter, entitled to the fullest credit.—*Editor.*

view of the population of the five States of the North-West, for decades of years, constructed by collating the census returns from 1800 down to 1850.

From this table it appears, that during the decade 1840—'50, the population of Wisconsin advanced from 30,000 to 305,000, while at corresponding decades of their growth, Ohio presents the figures from 45,000 to 230,000, Michigan from 31,000 to 212,000, while the corresponding increase of Indiana and Illinois was in a much smaller ratio.

It will be observed that the increase of Wisconsin, for the ten years ending in 1850 was 900 per cent. By examination of the census returns of that year, it will be found that the increase of Iowa, was 345 per cent.; that of Arkansas, 114 per cent., and of no other state over 100 per cent. during the same period.

This migration to Wisconsin, unparalleled as it is, in the experience of States, has not been the fitful result of the gambling mania which is luring its hordes of victims to the land of gold. It has been the steady and persistent flow of men and capital, seeking a permanent home and a profitable investment. After filling up the southern tier of Counties, the unbroken tide is setting strongly to the fertile valleys of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, with their tributaries, and to the Mississippi border.

Wisconsin is no less distinguished in the *character* of its early settlers, than in their number. Recklessness and wild adventure has found little place in the history of this migration.

Michigan was fairly open to survey and settlement as early as 1830, and in the course of the succeeding ten years its capabilities were explored and appreciated; during which period its population rose, by a massive immigration, from 31,000 to 212,000.

In 1840 the relations of Wisconsin to the intelligent enterprise of the eastern States, where what those of Michigan were ten years earlier. The straits had been passed by sails and by steam, and the Territory of Wisconsin was open to settlement.

The conviction, however, had fastened itself on the mind of New England and New York, that the physical elements of prosperity were more decided and more readily available in Wisconsin, and would work out an earlier maturity, economical and social, than had been realized in the history of other States.

In accordance with these impressions, it is confessedly true, that the basis of the social character of Wisconsin has been laid in a migration as distinguished in character, as it has been surpassing in numbers. The intellect, the education, and the integrity—the head and the heart,—as well as the enterprise, the wealth, the industry and the skill of New York and New England, have been laid broadly and deeply under requisition, to furnish out the staple of the population which is to leave its impress on the State for generations to come.

Wisconsin has been equally fortunate in the numbers and the material of her foreign immigration.

The great European movement, which is likely to characterise the latter half of the 19th century, will consist, not so much in the improvement of the forms of social organization at home, as in the reproduction of her civilization under greatly improved conditions, by a massive emigration to the new world, whose broad surface of land still unoccupied, is demanding settlement and cultivation, with a voice now familiar to the ear, and attuned to the heart of Europe.

There is a Germany in America which is destined to be greater than the German's fatherland. Ireland is already Cis Atlantic, and regenerate.—The Scandinavian, with a remarkable power of assimilation, touches our shores and is American in thought, feeling and language.

From all these sources, Wisconsin is deriving large and steady accessions of numbers and of wealth, of enterprise and of cultivated intellect; not of those who drop down by accident within our borders, but of those who leave their native shores with no other intention than to find a home in Wisconsin.

Through those several channels of increase and progress, Wisconsin presented in the year 1850—the *third* of her existence as a Sovereign State and a member of our National Union—a population of 305,000 souls, a result absolutely without parallel in the settlement of States.

And it is equally true that the opening of her career as a sovereign State, has been from a point of nearer approximation to the standard of social maturity which prevails on the Atlantic border, and with far less sacrifice of the advantages and refinements of modern civilization, than has been true of other new States, whether of the North-West, or of other portions of the great valley.

It is, therefore, an interesting question, and one which has attracted attention, public and private, what are the natural capabilities of Wisconsin, which have made so broad and permanent an impression upon the mass of mind at home and abroad, as to bring to her shores so large a portion of the men and the capital that are annually seeking a home and investment in the West?

The answer to this inquiry naturally arranges itself under a variety of heads which will be very briefly considered.

GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION.

The State of Wisconsin comprises most of that portion of the original Northwestern territory which lies north of the parallel of Latitude 42° 30, and between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi river, and extending to Lake Superior on the north. A portion of this expanse of territory, lying between Green Bay and Lake Superior and to the north and east of Menomonee and Montreal riv-

ers, is attached to Michigan; and another portion, west and north of the St. Croix and St. Louis rivers, to Minnesota.

The area of Wisconsin, exclusive of the waters of Lake Michigan and Superior, comprises fifty-four thousand square miles, or thirty five millions of acres.

CLIMATE.

Included between parallels 42° 30, and 48° north, the climate of Wisconsin is of the same general character with that of New York and New England. The average annual temperature, however, of Wisconsin is not of so low a figure as that of the same parallels on the Atlantic border. The atmosphere is drier, more transparent and salubrious, and the whole area of the State is remarkably free from those causes of endemic disease which were by no means unknown in the settlement of western New York, which have been the misfortune of large portions of Michigan, and the scourge of Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and, in part, of Iowa. Wisconsin is conceded to be the healthiest of the western States. Its Summers are adapted, in temperature and duration, to perfect all the products natural to the latitude, but are not oppressive. Its Autumns are proverbially delightful. Its Winters are close and uniform, but not harsh or generally severe.

GEOLOGICAL FEATURES, SOIL, &c.

The limestone, underlying the coal fields of Illinois, forms the immediate basis of the alluvion of Southern Wisconsin. This geological district, in addition to that portion of the State which lies southerly of the valley of the Wisconsin river, comprises the whole of the slope towards Lake Michigan.

In many portions of this district the lime rock disappears, and the out-cropping sand stone furnishes a fine material for building.

The lead bearing rock of the mineral region is a porous lime stone, prevailing throughout Grant, La Fayette and Iowa Counties, comprising four fifths of the "Lead District" of the Upper Mississippi; the remaining one fifth being in the States of Illinois and Iowa.

Deposits of Iron ore, water lime stone, and beds of Gypsum, together with other varieties of minerals, are found in localities more or less numerous throughout the lime stone region.

All of that section of the State, which lies between Lake Superior on the North, and the Falls of St. Anthony on the Mississippi, and the falls of the other rivers flowing southerly, is primitive in its prevailing Geological character; and it is within this primitive region, that the copper mines of Lake Superior are found—probably the richest in the world, and apparently inexhaustible.

In all that portion of the State, lying between the primitive region just described, and the lime stone formation of the South and

East, the transition sand stone prevails; interspersed with lime stone, and more sparsely, with rock of a primitive character. This formation comprises that section of country drained by the Wisconsin and other rivers tributary to the upper Mississippi, and below the falls of those streams. Within this Geological District, are found quarries of white marble, which promise to be abundant and valuable.

The character of the soil of Wisconsin is, of course, indicated to some extent by its geological features. The lime stone district of the State is overspread by a soil and subsoil similar to that which prevails in other portions of the great valley, and unsurpassed by any in fertility. It is the distinction of the mineral region of Wisconsin, that it is overspread by a surface of the very finest agricultural qualities; contrary to the general fact, that a mining district is worthless for the purpose of culture.

Proceeding northerly, and westwardly of the dividing ridge between the waters of Lake Michigan and those that flow into the upper Mississippi, the soil will be observed to become more sandy and porous; a character which will be found to prevail throughout the sand stone region above described. This portion of the State admits of easy cultivation. The soil is warm and highly productive, and the growth luxuriant.

FACE OF THE COUNTRY, SCENERY, &c.

The surface of Lake Michigan is about six hundred feet above the level of the Ocean. The surface of the State is every where undulating; not hilly, much less mountainous. Its average level below Latitude 46° is about 250 feet above Lake Michigan; seldom falling so low as 100 feet and rarely rising above 400 feet. The highest of the Blue mounds, on the line between the Counties of Dane and Iowa, rises 1170 feet above Lake Michigan, and is perhaps the most elevated land in Wisconsin.

There is a remarkable depression in the surface of the country, running across the State, from Green Bay to the Mississippi, the bottom of which furnishes the channels of the Fox and the lower Wisconsin. The portage between these two rivers is less than two miles.

This portage is but 223 feet above the level of Lake Michigan; being the elevation of the dividing ridge, at this point, between the basin of the Lakes and the valley of the Mississippi. At the mouth of the Wisconsin, the western terminus of this depression is about 60 feet above Lake Michigan; that of Lake Winnebago, at the head of the rapids of the Fox being 160 feet.

From the North into this valley flow the upper Wisconsin, and the Wolf, and on the South the country rises to the level of the head waters of the Rock, 316 feet above the surface of Lake Michigan. Thence there is a gradual inclination of the surface south-

erly to the line of the State; the elevation of which at the egress of the Rock is 128 feet above the Lake.

It is characteristic of the State, that the streams uniformly flow in beds but very slightly depressed below the general level of the adjacent country, and present no difficulty in the way of construction of roads of easy grade, transversely, as well as in the line of water courses. There is also, from this cause, much less to be apprehended from the sudden and destructive swell of the volume of water, from copious rains—two considerations, which they know best how to appreciate, who have dwelt where rivers and their branches make their beds in deep valleys, while the general elevation of the country is but a succession of intervening ridges.

Such being a general description of the surface of Wisconsin, the immigrant will not look for Alpine Scenery, or the bolder and sublimer features of the country of high mountain and deep valley. But in all that constitutes the beauty of the landscape, whether in the vestments of nature, or in those capabilities which cultivation can alone develope, Wisconsin is without a rival. Among her ten thousand undulations, there is scarcely one which lifts its crown above its fellows, which does not disclose to the prophetic eye of taste, a possible Eden, a vision of loveliness, which time and the hand of cultivation will not fail to realize and to verify.

The only forests, of a growth approximating towards that of Western New York, Pennsylvania and Northern Ohio, are found in a small portion of the Rock river valley, and in a narrow border on Lake Michigan, widening as it is traced northerly; evergreens becoming more freely interspersed, and finally predominating.

The evergreen growth prevails in the valleys of the streams of the sand stone district. The most extensive pinery in the State, is found on the upper Wisconsin. The same valuable growth prevails in the valleys of the Wolf, the La Crosse, the Black, the Chippewa, the St. Croix, and other streams penetrating the sand stone region.

Aside from these localities and the primitive region of Lake Superior, the elements of the Wisconsin landscape are the rolling prairie, the sparse wood-land, the opening, the natural meadow, and the lake. These, in their infinite variety of combination, and in their unrivaled loveliness, make up the natural scenery of the State. Three hundred and fifty thousand souls have, in a day as it were, found a happy home in Wisconsin. But her millions of acres, equally beautiful, and all untouched, are still courting the hand of cultivation, and the adornings of art.

EDUCATION.

The bounty of Congress has set apart the 16th Section of every township in the State for the support and maintainance of common Schools. From this source, nearly 1,000,000 acres will accrue to

the State, the proceeds of the sales of which are to constitute a permanent fund, the income of which is to be annually devoted to the great purpose of the grant.

This magnificent foundation has been wisely enlarged by Constitutional provisions, giving the same direction to the donation of 500,000 acres, under the act of 1841, and the five per cent. reserved on all sales of Government lands within the State. A still larger addition will accrue from the grant of the Swamp and overflowed lands, which the settlement of the country, the lapse of time, and easy processes of reclamation, will convert into the best meadow land in the world, and a large portion, ultimately, into arable.

For the support of a State University, seventy-two Sections of choice land, comprising 46,080 acres, have been already granted, and it is not improbable that this provision may be also enlarged by subsequent grants. If these trusts are administered with ordinary wisdom, the educational funds of Wisconsin, cannot be less, ultimately than $3,000,000 and may reach $5,000,000.

The University is already chartered and in successful operation. The school system has been wisely designed, and the progress of organization, under the law, keeps pace with the progress of settlement. There are already not far from two thousand five hundred school districts in the State. The annual income to be divided, has already reached $70,000, and will be greatly increased from year to year.

The system contemplates, by the introduction of union schools, to extend academic instruction to each town in the State.

In addition to this munificent public provision for common and liberal education, there are, in different parts of the State, educational incorporations, both academic and collegiate, founded on private subscription. The most promising of these are the College at Beloit, well endowed, and in successful operation: and similar Institutions at Milwaukee, Racine and Waukesha in Eastern Wisconsin, and at Appleton, in the North.

Indeed, in none of the new States, even in the Northwest, will the means of education be more ample; and in none is there a more rational appreciation of the importance of this paramount public interest.

In Wisconsin, as in the other States of this Union, there is, and ever will be, an entire freedom of ecclesiastical organization, and an equal protection of every religious institution and arrangement, conservative of good morals, and protective of the highest and most enduring interests of man.

In consideration of all these elements of prosperity, economical and social, such as have never, till now, gathered around the opening career of a new political community, there is little ground for wonder that the early growth of Wisconsin has been without a parallel in the history of States; and it may be very safely assumed,

that the advent of men and capital to that favored portion of the Northwest, will continue, in increasing volume, for many years to come.

MINING.

To the practical miner, as capitalist or operative, *the lead region of the Upper Mississippi offers the most substantial inducements to settlement.* The exceeding abundance and richness of the mineral; the comparative ease with which it may be mined; and the high price it commands the moment it is brought to the surface, open to the industrious and prudent operator a highway to wealth.

New *leads* of the richest promise, have been recently discovered in the mineral district, and an increasing emigration to that section of the State, promises to replace the California draft, and to meet the growing demand for the mineral.

The steady advance in the price of lead which has prevailed for five years past, is indicative of a gradual but decided extension of its uses in the arts.—There is no ground for apprehension, that the supply will outrun the demand, or be able to work a reduction of the wages of labor and profits of capital in this industrial occupation, for some years to come.

The copper mines of Lake Superior are of established celebrity throughout the world, and open an inviting field for enterprise. The mining interest in that region is fast losing its character of adventure, and is attracting the attention of the prudent capitalist and the practical miner, as a remunerative branch of business.

The iron mines of Wisconsin have not yet been opened to any extent, but are worthy of the attention of the immigrant. There are rich localities of ore near the head waters of the Rock, and on the Upper Mississippi and its branches.

LUMBERING.

To the lumberman, the pineries of Wisconsin present inducements for investment and settlement, which can be hardly overrated. That of the Upper Wisconsin and its tributaries, is the most extensive; and distinguished still more for the fine quality, than the inexhaustible quantities of its timber. The other localities of the white pine and other evergreens, are mainly on the Wolf, the great northern affluent of the Fox, and on the La Crosse, the Black and the St. Croix, branches of the Upper Mississippi.

The rapids of these streams furnish abundant water power for the manufacture of lumber, and on the annual spring rise, and occasional freshets at other seasons of the year, the yield of the mills is floated from the Wolf into Lake Winnebago and the Lower Fox; and from the other streams into the Mississippi.

Scarcely ten years have elapsed, since the Alleghany pine of Western New York and Pennsylvania, had undisputed possession of the market, not only of the Ohio valley but of the Mississippi and its tributaries, above New Orleans; at which point it competed with the lumber of Maine and New Brunswick.

The course of the lumber trade may now be considered as permanently changed. The pineries of Wisconsin now control, and will soon hold exclusive possession of the market of the valleys of the Mississippi and its great western affluents.

AGRICULTURE.

But it is to that great body of emigrants who are seeking a home in the West, as cultivators of the soil, that the natural capabilities of Wisconsin most of all, address themselves.

The prairies of Wisconsin, unlike those of Illinois, Missouri, Iowa and Minnesota, are none of them extensive; and are so skirted and belted by timber, as to be adapted to immediate and profitable occupation and improvement to their very centre.

The openings, which comprise a large portion of the finest land of Wisconsin, owe their present condition to the action of the annual fires, which have kept under all other forest growth, except those varieties of oak which can withstand the sweep of that element.

This annual burning of an exuberant growth of grass and of under brush, has been adding, perhaps for ages, to the productive power of the soil, and preparing it for the plough-share, without the life-long process which was necessary to bring the densely timbered lands of Ohio to the same advanced point of preparation, for immediate and profitable cultivation.

It is the great fact, that nature has thus "cleared up" Wisconsin to the hand of the settler, and enriched it by yearly burnings, and has at the same time left sufficient timber on the ground for fence and firewood, that explains in a great measure, the capacity it has exhibited, and is now exhibiting, for rapid settlement and early maturity.

There is another fact important to be noticed in this connection. The low level prairie, or natural meadow, of moderate extent, is so generally distributed over the face of the country, that the settler, on a fine section of arable land, finds on his own farm, or in his immediate neighborhood, abundant pasturage for his stock in summer, on the open range; and hay for the winter, for the cutting—the bounty of Nature supplying his need in this behalf, till the cultivated grasses may be introduced and become sufficient for his use.

It is this very rapid transition of a quarter section of government land into an *old farm*, without a tithe of the privations and hardships which hung around the life time of the early pioneers of Ohio, which distinguishes the early settlement of Wisconsin.

Every description of husbandry suitable to the latitude, may be successfully prosecuted. In addition to the usual routine of crops, the business of stock-raising, of dairy, of wool growing, and the culture of flax, are beginning to engage the attention of settlers, with promise of eminent success.

The steady and exclusive prosecution of agriculture on the fertile soil of the mineral district, has the advantage of an active home market and ready pay.—Hitherto, in consequence of the tempting and absorbing nature of the mining business, the cultivation of the soil has given place to "prospecting" for mineral. Agricultural lands, therefore, though of the very first order of fertility, have been neglected, and may be purchased at very low rates.

The same general remarks apply to the agricultural lands in the pineries.—Though of different elements from the soil which prevails in the limestone region, it is easily worked, and of undoubted productive power. The home market is still more importunate in its demands, and as promptly remunerative.

And of the millions of acres comprised in the area of Wisconsin, by far the greatest portion may still be entered at the land offices at $1.25 per acre, paid down, in specie, or in land warrants.

Several hundred thousand acres of school lands, in the older counties, are now open to entry at their appraised value, at the office of the Secretary of State, at the capitol in Madison; one-tenth of the purchase money down, and the residue on a long credit at seven per cent. per annum.

Choice lands, located for the maintenance of the State University, may also be entered at their appraised value, at the office of the Secretary of State, on even better terms of payment than the school lands.

It is worth while to add, that the California emigration and other temporary causes have thrown in market, at reduced prices, many improved farms in choice locations in the older counties. The opportunity for investment thus offered, is worthy of the attention of the emigrant; and facts relative thereto may be easily ascertained on inquiry at private land offices in the larger towns in the State.

MANUFACTURES.

The artizan will find a fair field for his labor, and for the employment of capital in Wisconsin.

For the ordinary mechanic arts which are inseparable from agricultural thrift anywhere, the demand is importunate. Builders of every class and degree are liberally paid in the larger towns. Millwrights are sure to find employment in town or country, whether the mill power be water or steam. Carriage making, from the manufacture of the railroad car to the simple vehicle, whether useful or tasteful, is greatly in demand and cannot fail to do well.

Among the larger operations of manufacture, those of flour and lumber are becoming sources of profit to the capitalist and laborer, and beneficial to the farmer. Woolen, flax and cotton mills must soon become fixed facts in Wisconsin. The raw material for the two former, will soon be among the larger and more profitable home productions of her agriculture, while the supply of cotton will, through the channel of the Mississippi, be more direct, safe and easy, than by sea, to towns on the Atlantic border. For all these operations there is abundant water power in suitable locations.

For the construction of steamboats and every variety of lake craft, the western coast of Lake Michigan is eminently adapted; and it may be reasonably anticipated that a large share of the ship and boat building for these inland waters, will be done in the ports on that shore. The iron and lumber of Northwestern Wisconsin, will attract to that quarter much of the boat building for the Mississippi and its branches.

Nor is it to be presumed that Wisconsin will be long tributary to Buffalo or Pittsburgh for its engines, whether for the steamer, the locomotive or the mill. No point on the Lakes presents more advantages than Milwaukee for foundries, for castings and machinery of every description.

All these, and the thousand unenumerated arts which go to constitute the social maturity of a State, will be hospitably entertained, and meet an early development in Wisconsin.

TRADE.

Bordered on the east and the west, throughout its entire length, by Lake Michigan on the one hand, and by the Mississippi on the other, every portion of the State has easy access to the Ocean, and a complete command of the eastern and southern markets—an advantage which will be appreciated by those who are acquainted with the mutations, as well as the fixed laws of trade.

On the Michigan side, have sprung up the towns, Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosha, Ozaukee, Manitowoc, Sheboygan and Green Bay, all flourishing and promising.

The growth of Milwaukee, like that of the State of which it is the commercial mart, has been unexampled in the history of American cities. Scarcely visited by the white man in 1835, it has now, (1852,) a population of twenty-five thousand souls.

On the Mississippi border, the elements of wealth, bountiful as nature has been, have scarcely begun to be developed; and the question is still open, as to the position of its principal commercial mart. The more prominent points at present, are Potosi, Prairie du Chien, Prairie La Crosse, and Willow river.

Of the interior towns, there are in the lead district, Mineral Point and Platteville; in the basin of the Fox and Lower Wiscon-

sin, Fort Winnebago, Oshkosh, Fond du Lac and Menasha. On the banks of the Rock, Watertown, Janesville and Beloit. Between the Rock and Lake Michigan, Whitewater and Waukesha.

Madison, the Capital of the State, the seat of justice of Dane county, and the seat of the University, is beautifully located in the basin of the Four Lakes, midway between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi.

Janesville, the most populous of the interior towns, is the seat of the State Institution for the education of the Blind.

The population of the villages of the interior above enumerated, ranges from twelve hundred to four thousand each. The list of towns might be greatly enlarged, did it fall within the scope of this article to do more than to present to the emigrant a general view of the natural capabilities, and the present aspects of Wisconsin.

All around is in rapid, though unequal progression, and the town unenumerated to-day, may take its place in the first class to-morrow.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

Plank roads are in process of construction, connecting the leading towns of the interior with each other, and all with the Lake and the River. Most of the towns on Lake Michigan are penetrating the interior with these facilities of trade and intercourse, to the mutual advantage of themselves and the country.

Of the several railroads projected and chartered, most of which are destined to completion at an early day, two—the "Milwaukee and Mississippi," and the "Rock River Valley roads" are already under progress.

Cars are already running over the track of the former, from Milwaukee to Eagle Prairie, nearly forty miles. It will be finished to Rock River this season, and to the Wisconsin during the summer of 1853. Another year will carry it through to the Mississippi. The track is laid with heavy T rail, and the road, with all its appurtenances, will be a work of the first class. This road will pass through Madison, the Capital of the State, and terminate at or near the mouth of the Wisconsin.

The Rock River Valley road, connecting Fond du Lac with Janesville, and to be ultimately extended to Chicago, has been commenced simultaneously at Fond du Lac and Janesville. Several miles have been graded, and are nearly ready for the rail.

A road has been chartered, to run from Fort Winnebago, through Madison and Janesville, to Beloit; there to connect with a branch from the Chicago and Galena road; thus furnishing a continuous route from the valley of the Fox and Wisconsin, through the Capital of the State, to Chicago. This route is attracting the attention of capitalists; and the business of the country demands

and will effect the early construction of the road, by means of which a continuous line of railroad travel to the Atlantic, will be secured to Central Wisconsin.

The Lake shore road, from Milwaukee, through Racine and Kenosha, to Chicago, is an enterprise of general interest, and the construction of it cannot be long deferred.

Other railroads to intersect the State in various directions, either new routes or extensions of old ones, are projected. Some of these doubtless will be carried through, though the period of their completion is more distant than that of those above named.

The State is now in the administration of a large trust fund, derived from the sales of lands, granted by Congress, for the construction of a steamboat communication, from Green Bay to the Mississippi, along the bed of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers. This great work when completed is destined to form an important and valuable water communication between the basin of the St. Lawrence and the great valley of the Mississippi. Once completed heavy freight between St. Louis and New York will inevitably seek this channel, in preference to that by the Illinois and Michigan canal, as now it seeks the latter in preference to the eastern routes.

This great work, furnishing the most capacious outlet from our MEDITERRANEAN RIVER, into our inland seas, and thence, through the enlarged Erie canal and the Hudson, into the Atlantic, will be completed at no very distant day.

The improvement of the harbors on lake Michigan is imperiously demanded at the hands of the General Government, and in the existing condition of the Treasury cannot be longer delayed. And manifestly no object of expenditure could be more eminently national than the improvement of the outlet of Lake Superior, affording to the ordinary lake navigation free access to the copper region of northern Michigan and Wisconsin.

In connexion with the subject of works of general utility it remains only to say, that the telegraphic wires made early entry into Wisconsin. The line from Chicago to Milwaukee, and thence to Madison and Galena, has been for some years in operation. A net work of wires now overspreads the State, and all the larger towns are brought into the circuit of instantaneous communication, and into enjoyment of the advantages of this commerce of thought and feeling.

It need hardly be said in conclusion that these evidences of social advancement which meet the immigrant on his arrival in Wisconsin, and rapidly gather around the settler in his new home contrast cheerfully and hopefully with the privation, the hardship, the toil and the danger which fifty years ago environed the pioneer in the forests of Ohio.

Indeed, looking at the fact that nature has prepared the soil of Wisconsin for the plow, and its herbage for the immediate susten-

tation of domestic animals, contemplating the appliances of civilization, which art brings to the very doors of his cabin, he will not doubt—as in truth he need not—that twenty years will do for Wisconsin, what fifty years have barely sufficed to do for Ohio; that in all that goes to constitute a healthy and refined civilization, Wisconsin is destined to a more rapid development and an earlier maturity, than has heretofore marked the history of States, under the most favorable conditions.

These views are not extravagant. They are conclusions fully warranted by the premises. The predictions of to-day, will be sober history in 1872.

ARTICLE III.

PACIFIC RAILROAD.

Railroads for Missouri and the West.

Public attention seems now, in this State, to be fully awake to the necessity for railroads to develope the resources and hidden wealth of the country, and it is all-important that there should be full examination and free discussion of the subject, in order to bring to light the true system of railroads for the West, and how, in the speediest and safest manner, they may be built. Every variety of plan may be expected, modified by the knowledge and sectional interest of the individual, but each one will throw some light on the question.

It is easy to project on paper thousands of miles of railroad, but each road has to be built mile by mile, paid for as it progresses, and it should so far as possible pay back dividend as it progresses—for capital in this country cannot wait years for a return. Hence it is important to consider the country a projected railroad is to pass through as well as its ultimate destination; but it is equally important in starting a simple local railroad, if but ten miles in length, to look at what its end in time may be, and attempt to suit it to its destiny. A railroad once commenced, if laid to naturally suit the business of the country, must keep on as surely as the water from a spring must keep running.

It may seem to some folly to talk of thousands of miles, when perhaps only tens can at present be built, and objections may be made that too much is being undertaken, to the jeopardy of what can be done; but however large the plan, it will only be perfected as money is forthcoming for it, and it is all-important to look at the whole subject in order to start the details right. This is especially true of railroads from St. Louis—the natural centre of the Mississippi valley.

It is not necessary in this article to consider the routes Eastward, (already started) for it may be safely asserted that the Eastern States will build toward Missouri when she has made herself the centre of commerce of the West. Missouri has to build roads north, west and south.

Looking to the North and West the first difficulty that presents itself is the lack of any commercial point, within a reasonable distance to build to, but on the other hand the country to build through is all valuable, either for mineral or agricultural products. The necessity appears then of reversing the habits of the old countries, and instead of building roads to accommodate a business in existence, build them in order to create the business that is to maintain them. To the North the route naturally suggests itself as along the dividing ridge between the Mississippi and the Missouri rivers, and following into and beyond Iowa, there is found the valley of the Des Moines river, and beyond the valley of the St. Peters, and still beyond the valley of the Red River of the North, leading into the heart of the Upper Canadas—and all in the direct route northward. Every foot of the country passed thro is valuable, and it is understood to be one over which a railroad can easily be constructed. The route through Missouri, about 250 miles, is probably the easiest one for its length in the United States. Magnificent as this project appears, it is still more so, when, turning to the South, a route is projected by the Iron Mountain to the Gulf of Mexico, at New Orleans. Then is it seen to be a main trunk road north and south—grand as the Mississippi river itself—passing from the Gulf of Mexico, by the Iron Mountain and by St. Louis, and stopping only when it reaches the limit of civilization.

Missouri can start this by simply commencing the construction of the "North Missouri Railroad," and the "Iron Mountain Railroad." The States to the North and to the South will take it up, and carry it on, and while each State will work for its particular interest, it will at the same time be for the good of all. Louisiana, Arkansas, Iowa and Minnesota can all be interested in the work going on in Missouri, and in turn draw out for their work the interest of this State.

To the West the natural route seems to be generally by the valley of the Missouri river to the mouth of the Kanzas, and following it out, by the South Pass to the Pacific ocean. This has already been commenced. Here again we see the Gulf of Mexico, connected through St. Louis with the northwestern plains of the country.

Another route strongly recommends itself, a route to the southwest corner of the State. The other projected routes do not accommodate that section, and when this route is followed out through Texas to the Gulf at Galveston, or some other point, intersecting as it does all the routes passing to the South toward the Pacific ocean, it is found a trunk road equally important with the others.

The four roads mentioned above, with the eastern roads now being built, are the main trunk roads that will fix for all time Missouri as the seat of empire in the West, with arms stretching to the Atlantic, to the Gulf of Mexico, to the Pacific, and to Northern Canada.

They are not roads that will make themselves *unless they are started*, and there is some danger that, unless started soon, other projects emanating from influence foreign and antagonistic to the State, may throw them back for many years, if not for all time.

Having considered this general system for the *results to be obtained*, it may be well to look at these roads as State roads, and bringing the system down to something at present practicable, test their worth for local improvement and development of the State, and as stock paying roads as they progress within the State.

These roads are the North Missouri road—the Pacific road—the Southwest Missouri road, and the Iron Mountain road. It is understood that the Pacific Railroad Co. are making surveys for the three last named routes, with a view of making reliable comparative estimates. These surveys are not yet complete but have progressed sufficiently to satisfactorily determine the practicability, at reasonable cost, of all the routes.

The North Missouri Road. The route for this road after crossing the river at or near St. Charles would naturally follow the level, fertile prairie ridge between the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, passing through St. Charles, Warren, Montgomery, Callaway, Andrian, Boone, Randolph, Macon, Adair and Schuyler counties. Some of these counties are among the richest in the State. Every foot of the land is fertile, and the whole country as capable of supporting as dense a population as anywhere in the United States. The St Joseph and Hannibal road, the construction of which is secured by the grant of lands lately made to it, will be but two branches, from the East and West—and other branches will spring up from the river on each side, to pour the whole produce of that part of the State between the two rivers, now containing one half of the population of the State, over the North Missouri road. There can be no earthly doubt but that it must be a stock paying road *from the commencement.* The length of the road may be 250 miles, and $18,000 per mile a large estimate. The total cost might thus be $4,500,000. The ten counties that it passes can easily subscribe on an average (those nearer the river more, and those inland less) 100,000 each, yielding from county subscription $1,000,000. Individuals in St. Charles, and some of the other richer counties may easily subscribe $500,000.—St. Louis may bring in the same amount, and with the credit of the State to the amount of $1,500,000, less 15 per cent. for interest to be paid on whole sum for say ½ of five years time of construction (2½ year at 6 per cent.), means for building may be counted on to the amount

of $3,275,000—leaving only $1,225,000 for the credit of the road to furnish.

It may be safely asserted that, when any road properly located can furnish from the half to two thirds of the amount necessary to build it, that its own credit will furnish the rest, when needed. To secure the State from harm for its credit, the road has only to earn $360 per mile of road. The earnings must be five times that.

An article on the Railroad shows the earnings of the following roads in the West to be

Little Miami.....	$3,541	per mile
Columbus and Xenia.....	2,778	"
Michigan Central.....	2,116	"
Madison and Indianapolis.....	2,378	"

The charter for the Pacific Railroad Co. is for a road from St. Louis to the western limit of the State. As yet that company have not determined this route, whether it shall be for the trade of the Missouri river, or toward the Southwest. As carrying out the system of roads, it may be assumed that the Pacific railroad proper will be located on the shortest route to the mouth of the Kanzas river, and that the Southwest road will be built as a branch to the Pacific railroad, on which the land grant may be applied as "a Railroad from St. Louis to the western line of the State."

Pacific Railroad to Kanzas. Referring to the report of the surveys of this road, made by Mr. Kirkwood, it will be seen that the shortest route is by the Missouri river to Jefferson City, and thence as direct as possible to Kanzas, passing through St. Louis, Gasconade, Osage, Cole, Moniteau, Pettis, Johnson, Lafayette and Jackson counties.

It may be said of this route that the means of transportation on the Missouri river has already created a business that will go far toward making a railroad profitable, and there can be no doubt that the construction of the road will so rapidly develope the resources of the country, that a full business will be found. It will be seen by Mr. Kirkwood's report that the ordinary railroad charges are something below the average river charges, and it is understood that the surveys lately made show the practicability of shortening the route twenty miles or more, thus still reducing the railroad charge. The competition with the river, and with the routes directly connected through the St. Joseph and Hannibal Railroad with the Lake cities, must obligate the company to build the shortest route to Kanzas as the only way to secure by low railroad freights the greatest amount of business. It must be borne in mind that the uncertain and dangerous navigation of the Missouri river must always keep the river charges for eight months of the year above those of a railroad. Looking at this route as a main trunk line westward toward the Pacific ocean, it seems still more important to shorten it as much as possible.

The distance it is believed will be about 280 miles, and the highest estimate $6,500,000.—The means for building this road may be stated as follows:

Present subscription	$1,500,000
County subscription that may be easily procured from Franklin county $50,000; Gasconade, 25,000; Osage 50,000; Cole 50,000; Moniteau 50,000; Pettis 100,000; Johnson, additional, 100,000; Jackson, additional, 150,000.	575,000
Private subscription through same counties	150,000
State credit at present granted $2,000,000	
Do. additional 1,000,000	2,550,000
Deducting 15 per cent. interest	
	$4,875,000

Leaving $1,625,000 to be made up by additional subscription in St. Louis, and by stock to contractors (that so far has been 10 per cent.), or by the credit of the road, that would doubtless furnish it.

To secure the payment of interest on State credit, the road has only to earn about $640 per mile.

The engineer's estimate for earnings, made on apparently moderate data, is about $1,660 per mile.

Southwest Missouri Road. Supposing this road to branch from the Pacific road about 40 miles from St. Louis, the distance in branch would probably be about 300 miles. Estimating this at $23,000 per mile, would $6,600,000 as cost. It cannot so safely be said of this route that it would be in the start a stock paying road, although perhaps it would be more valuable than any other in developing the resources of the State. With the bonus of the land grant given to this route, it may be called as safe for investment as any of the others. From St. Louis to the Gasconade river, following the ridge between the Maramac and Bourbeuse, the route would be through the heart of a very rich mineral country, (iron, lead and copper,) and after reaching the eastern edge of Green county, from there to the west line of the State the country is rich, well wooded, possessed of abundant water power, and competent to support a dense population. Lead and coal too is found in abundance. Already Green county, shut out from market as it is, is second in population and wealth to but few counties of the State. To this route would come all the trade of Northwest Arkansas, and the Cherokee country, with its salt and coal.

The means for building this road may be stated as follows:

County subscriptions from Franklin $25,000; Crawford $50,000; Pulaski $50,000; Camden $25,000; Laclede $50,000; Dallas $25,000; Wright $25,000; Green $200,000; Lawrence $100,000; Jasper, Newton and Barry $50,000	$600,000

This route opening a new section of country, would draw subscriptions from the neighboring counties, which, with the private subscriptions that can be obtained, would probably amount to	$400,000
St. Louis, city, county and private	500,000
Credit of the State 1,000,000, which, deducting 15 p. cent. interest, would yield	850,000
Between 1,000,000 and 1,300,000 acres of land, say worth	2,500,000
	4,850,000

Leaving to make up by stock or credit of road about $1,750,000. With the credit to the stock of the bonus of land this could easily be procured when needed. To pay interest on State bonds the road need only earn $200 per mile.

Iron Mountain Road. Several routes for this road present themselves, and the selection of either must be governed by careful surveys. It was stated before the Legislature that the late surveys show a practicable route, about 70 miles in length, and costing about $1,750,000. The immense mineral wealth of the country through which this road must pass, is so world-wide known that it does not seem worth while to specify it for the purposes of this article. Its iron, lead, copper, kaolin, marble, granite, pine-timber and fair proportion of arable land, all warrant fair dividends. A moderate estimate made by the member from Washington co., (Mr. Johnson) at the Extra session, founded on the simple development of the works *already in existence*, gave a dividend of 10 per cent. on $1,750,000.

The means for building this road may be stated as follows:

Subscription of counties and individuals on line of road say	$450,000
St. Louis, city, county and individual	300,000
State credit $750,000, deducting 15 per cent	637,000
	$1,387,000

Leaving only $363,000 to be got on credit of road. To pay interest on State bonds the road has only to earn about $640 per mile.

A summary of these roads will show as projected for the State, independent of the St. Joseph and Hannibal railroad, 900 miles of railroad, the estimated cost of which is $19,350,000, and the means estimated, independent of the credit of and contractors' stock in each road, are $14,387,000. In this it is proposed that the State should advance her credit $4,250,000, which added to the credit already advanced to the Pacific road, and the St. Joseph and Hannibal road, loans the State credit for $7,750,000, secured by mortgage of all the roads, and advanced dollar for dollar with the capital of stockholders.

Two questions naturally present themselves. 1st. Is it policy to commence all these roads at once, or build the first and then another &c.? 2d. Is there any danger to the credit of the State by advancing it for all of these main lines of the State?

A few brief remarks as to these two points will not be out of place here.

An examination of the estimates given above will show that, with the exception of the State credit, the means for the construction of each road come from that particular road, and would not in any event be applied to the construction of either of the others. It is true that St. Louis in a small way assists all, but not to the extent that her wealth and credit is *added* to by the projection of each one. The State may be likened in this case to the father of four sons. The father starts, with such aid as he can give, each son in *his* particular path in life, and does not say to the second: "wait until your brother has made his fortune, then you may start," and so to the third and fourth. Should the energies in the North Missouri route lay dormant until the Kanzas is finished? Should the energies in the South-west route lay dormant until both are finished, and those in the Iron Mountain route, until all others are finished? Plain common sense answers No, and as four different men may start at the same instant of time, and walk in four different directions, so may all these roads start. Each one will take from three to five years to build, and a year in the West accomplishes much more than in an old country, for good or bad. During the construction of the Kanzas road alone, the trade of North-west Missouri might be diverted eastward, and that of South-west Missouri diverted southward, or during the construction of the south-west road alone, the national Pacific road might be fixed on the southern route.

At this particular time, when a large donation of land starts internal improvements in the State, and when by the proper disposition of the lands the Pacific railroad *may be* duplicated, it seems but wisdom in the State to start its true system of railroads by a judicious, but at the same time liberal loan of State credit to the companies formed, or to be formed, for the construction of the several roads mentioned.

The credit that has been loaned to the Pacific railroad, is only available to that company when a liberal subscription has been made, and as they spend on their work a certain amount of money to be furnished by the stockholders. After the expenditure of each fifty thousand dollars of private capital, the State bonds are issued to an equal amount, the State taking a first mortgage on the whole road. The Pacific railroad company is bound to pay the interest on these bonds, and in case of failure so to do, the State may foreclose the mortgage, on a work that must, from the law of the case, have cost at least double the amount of the State credit loaned to it. The State must be safe, if the road is one at all called for by

the wants of the people, or has any tendency to develope the wealth of the country. This is equally true of the other roads, but some of them may not start into present existence without the assurance of a loan of the State credit. By it persons interested may see a possibility of accomplishing the work desired, and come forward, subscribe their own means, and show the worth of the road by spending their money for its construction. Then, and not until then, can they use the State credit, but without the assurance of that, they might not attempt the work. No sane person will invest his money merely to get State credit to an equal amount, nor in any work that does not give fair promise of profit. The State, therefore, is safe that her credit, if granted as to the Pacific railroad, will not in fact be applied to any work except such as is evidently good, for on a useless one private capital will not be invested in it to an amount sufficient to use the credit.

The four roads mentioned are the trunk lines of the State *and of the West.* Each one may bear the closest examination, and stand on its own merits, and yet from the peculiarities of circumstances and the jealousies of legislation, all may have to act and pass together. The credit from the State will only be applied within the next five years, and is not at once thrown into the money market to the extent granted. The credit is dollar for dollar with private capital, and applied only to main trunk roads, that a man running can see are all good in themselves. The foreign capitalist looking as he does closely, will quickly see that *each of these roads adds to the wealth of the State ten-fold what she lends;* and seeing at the same time that this credit is only applied to the main lines, and does not extend itself, for the time being, to the numerous branches that, for local benefit will extend from each line—some good and some bad—will feel safe in his investment. The very combination of these interests at this time can prevent, for their own defence (all being interested in the safety of the State credit) the extension of that credit to the local branches of the State; *and herein is one element of safety in acting together in the State Legislature.*

A general railroad law may safely and wisely be enacted granting to any set of men who will take the proper steps, and advance the necessary money, a charter to build any railroad. This will prevent any monopoly. But the credit of the State should only, for the time being, attach to the leading lines of whatever system is adopted. So far it may go safely, but farther a log-rolling legislation might endanger that credit.

In this article nothing has been said as to the worth of these roads for their effect on the value of lands on their routes, and the consequent enrichment of the State. An interesting article might be written on this subject, and one that would force on the mind of every thinking man the importance of starting all as quickly as possible.

One important question presents itself in connection with a system of railroads for the West, and that is the "gauge" of railroads. All should be alike. It is to be hoped that this may be taken up in time to prevent the confusion that must arise from a diversity of gauge west of the Mississippi river. *E. E.*

ARTICLE IV.

Mississippi Valley Railroad.

ORIGIN, LENGTH, COST, WAYS AND MEANS &C.

The Good Book intimates that, when a man begins to build a house, he should sit down first, and count the cost; we will heed this suggestion, and count the cost of the *Mississippi Valley Railroad.*

But first, for the sake of showing that a great movement is in operation to determine the preliminaries of its construction, and for the sake of preserving the history of its origin, we copy the following CALL, and *Proceedings of the citizens of St. Louis*, from the columns of "The St. Louis Daily Evening News," one of the first, enterprising and unflinching supporters of this measure.

A CALL.

NORTH MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS AND NEW ORLEANS RAILROAD CONVENTION.

Whereas, movements have been made in favor of the *Missouri and Arkansas Railroad*, the *Railroad from St. Louis to New Orleans*, and the *North Missouri Railroad*, and whereas, each one of these roads would contribute to the prosperity of the other, by a judicious location of the routes, would allay sectional feelings, by a union of the interests of the North and South, and would also give a new impulse to the success of latitudinal railroads, by pouring additional produce and passengers on them; and whereas, it is the part of wisdom to hear and fully understand the wants of every portion of the country along the lines, in order to provide for the whole by one grand plan, to devise ways and means, and to ensure combination of action for its speedy execution; therefore, we propose that a meeting of the citizens of St. Louis be held at the Court House, on Saturday evening, October 9th, at half past seven o'clock, to consult about the propriety of

calling a Convention at St. Louis, on the first Monday in December next, to obtain the co-operation of the North and South along the Mississippi Valley, in behalf of a line of longitudinal railroads from Louisiana to Minnesota.

Henry Cobb,	R. P. Hall,	A. G. Switzer,
H. A. Prout,	Wm. C. Jewett,	W. N. Switzer,
Mann Butler,	T. T. Gantt,	D. A. January,
L. M. Kennett,	A. H. Evans,	J. Stettinius,
S. T. Glover,	Peter Lindell,	Jos. A. Sire,
T. Grimsley,	Edwd. Bates,	Jas. E. Yeatman,
J. O'Fallon,	James Jennings,	Thos. Allen,
Wm. Glasgow, jr.,	J. R. Barret,	H. King,
Jos. Charless,	Jno. Maguire,	Louis Winkelmaier,
Henry T. Blow,	Philip Tippett,	Pierce C. Grace,
Wm. T. Christy,	M. S. Cerre,	John S. Watson,
R. J. Lockwood,	George Taylor,	Chas. P. Chouteau,
W. R. Carter,	Charles Semple,	A. Hamilton,
Wm. G. Pettus,	Wm. H. Belcher,	J. W. Skinner,
H. Singleton,	J. W. Hall,	R. S. Holmes,
J. A. Brownlee,	Wm. C. Anderson,	Jno. M. Wimer,
K. Mackenzie,	H. Von Phul,	Alton Long,
Oliver Bennett,	Jas. L. Waters,	Jas. B. Bowlin,
Charles K. Dickson,	Jno. B. Taylor, jr.,	B. B. Dayton,
John J. Murdoch,	Frederick Ray,	A. L. Mills,
H. D. Bacon,	Adolphus Meier,	Henry Chauteau,
Edwd. Walsh,	Jno. Baker,	John Simonds,
Jos. H. Conn,	J. H. Lucas,	Amedee Berthold,
John H. Gay,	E. C. Angelrodt,	R. C. McAllister,
J. G. Shelton,	R. Barth,	J. B. Brant,
Edwd. Stagg,	Jas. Harrison,	Thos. S. O'Sullivan,
John D. Daggett,	E. C. Wiggins,	Henry Kayser,
Samuel Treat,	B. Stickney,	Charles G. Ramsey.
John Y. Page,	L. Scollay,	

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY RAILROAD.

In pursuance of a call which had been extensively signed and published in the newspapers of St. Louis, a meeting was held in the Court House on Saturday evening, the 9th inst. On motion of Col. Thornton Grimsley, Hon. L. M. KENNETT, Mayor of the city, was called to the chair. HENRY COBB and A. S. MITCHELL were appointed Secretaries.

The call for the meeting was then read, and after some remarks from the Mayor in further explanation of the subject of the call, Dr. J. W. Hall moved that a committee of five be appointed by the Chairman to prepare resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting, which was adopted; and the Chairman appointed Dr. J. W. Hall, Henry Cobb, Louis A. LaBeaume, Geo. R. Taylor, and Wm. M. McPherson, on said committee.

The committee, after a brief absence, returned and reported the following:

Whereas, the population west of the Mississippi is already very large and increasing rapidly, and the rich and fertile country lying between said Mississippi and Missouri rivers north, and the mineral wealth of the States of Missouri and Arkansas, and the rich plains of the Southern States of the Mississippi valley, require new channels to develope the resources of this vast extent of country; and the best way of doing so is by building a railroad from the Falls of St. Anthony to the Gulf of Mexico.

Therefore, be it resolved, That the people of the States and the Territory interested in building the aforesaid railroad, be requested to meet in Convention at St. Louis on the third Monday of the ensuing November.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to issue a call for said Convention, and to invite distinguished citizens to attend.

Resolved, That a committee of ten be appointed, by the Chairman of this meeting, to make the necessary arrangements for the meeting of said Convention.

On motion of Mr. Mason, it was

Resolved, That the Chairman of this meeting appoint a delegation of twenty to attend the Convention of the friends of the North Missouri Railroad, to be held at St. Charles, on the 10th of November.

On motion of Harry I. Bodley, it was

Resolved, That the Hon. L. M. Kennett, Mayor of St. Louis, and Chairman of the meeting, be added as a member of the Committee of Invitation and as Chairman thereof.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That all the papers in the Mississippi Valley, friendly to the objects of this meeting, be requested to publish the proceedings thereof.

The meeting then adjourned.

L. M. KENNETT, Chairman.

HENRY COBB, A. S. MITCHELL, } Secretaries.

COMMITTEES FOR THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY RAILROAD CONVENTION.

Hon. L. M. Kennett, Chairman of the meeting on Saturday night, has furnished us with the following list of names appointed by him on the Committees required by the resolutions of Saturday night—his own name being placed at the head of the first by us, by order of the meeting:

COMMITTEE OF INVITATION.

L. M. Kennett,	John O'Fallon,	J. B. Brant
Henry Cobb,	Geo. R. Taylor,	Chas. P. Chouteau.

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

Col. T. Grimsley,	Edward Walsh,	Samuel Russell,
N. Ranney,	J R. Barrett,	H. J. Bodley,
Isaac H. Sturgeon,	Louis A. Labeaume,	A. S. Mitchell,
R. S. Elliot.		

DELEGATES TO THE ST. CHARLES CONVENTION.

E. R. Mason,	Col. Jno. O'Fallon,	Bernard Pratte,
Neree Valle,	Jas. H. Lucas,	F. P. Blair,
John S. McCune,	Wm. M. Morisson,	Richard Phillips,
Henry T. Blow,	Col. T. Grimsley,	Isaac H. Sturgeon,
John Kern,	R. Campbell	J. Loughborough,
H. Cobb,	E. A. Lewis,	Thos. Allen,
A. B. Chambers,	L. D. Norris.	

Persons appointed on the above Committee who cannot serve, are authorized to fill the vacancies that will be thus occasioned.

Next it is desirable to know the length of the road.

Among the many facts showing what is saved by the *Mississippi Valley Railroad*, the item of distance exhibits an admirable economy.

From the city of New Orleans to the Falls of St. Anthony, along the bends of the river, the distance is 2050 miles: 1200 from New Orleans to St. Louis, and 850 from St. Louis to the Falls.

Along the *Mississippi Valley Railroad*, *via* Helena, from New Orleans to the Falls, the distance is only 1180 miles: 650 from New Orleans to St. Louis, and 530 from St. Louis to the Falls; and therefore also it follows that the distance from the Falls to New Orleans, by the railroad *via* Helena, is shorter than the distance from St. Louis to New Orleans by the river.

As various routes for this road have been suggested through the southern portion of the Mississippi Valley, and as reasonably accurate figures of distances, in round numbers, may afford good data for future arguments, on the whole plan as well as on its minutiae, the following table of distances is presented, each distance specified by the most striking and natural name that occured.

Distance from New Orleans to the Falls of St. Anthony, *via* Little Rock:

New Orleans and Opelousas Railroad	160 miles
North Louisiana Railroad	180 "
South Arkansas Railroad	120 "
North Arkansas Railroad	160 "
South Missouri Railroad	175 "
North Missouri Railroad	230 "
Iowa and Minnesota Railroad	300 "
Total distance *via* Little Rock	1325 "

Distance from New Orleans to the Falls of St. Anthony *via* Memphis:

New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad, by branch to Memphis	385 miles
Memphis and St. Francois Railroad	40 "
St. Francois and the Ridge Railroad	100 "
South Missouri Railroad	175 "
North Missouri Railroad	230 "
Iowa and Minnesota Railroad	300 "
Total distance *via* Memphis	1230 miles

Distance from New Orleans to the Falls of St. Anthony *via* Helena:

New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad, by branch to Helena	325 miles
Helena and the Ridge Railroad	150 "
South Missouri Railroad	175 "
North Missouri Railroad	230 "
Iowa and Minnesota Railroad	300 "
Total distance *via* Helena	1180 miles

Having shown the beginning of this work, and determined the length, we will now count the cost.

By referring to page 420, volume 8th of the *Western Journal & Civilian*, and examining the Report of the Survey for a Railroad from St. Louis to Fulton *via* Little Rock, by Capt. Barney, United States Agent, we obtain the most reliable data, for the accurate determination of this important point.

As the cost of construction of this road near and north and south of the Iron Mountain is far greater than in Arkansas, we will here re-present the cost of the *South Missouri Railroad* in succinct detail, remarking that by this route the Iron Mountain is 76 miles from St. Louis.

Cost of construction of the *South Missouri Railroad*:

Estimates of the first division, 64 miles, from the City of St. Louis to the St. Francois river, as per Capt. Barney's report of survey.

Total cost of	clearing and grubbing	$44,685
Do.	excavation and embankment	563,370
Do.	masonry	97,721
Do.	bridging	67,220
Total cost for grading and bridging		$772,996

Estimates of second division, 81 miles, along the valley of the St. Francois river to Old Indian Ford :

Total cost for	clearing and grubbing	$56,040
Do.	excavation and embankment	680,857
Do.	masonry	114,449
Do.	bridging	206,150
Total cost for grading and bridging		1,057,496

Estimates to the southern boundary of Missouri, 30 miles of third division, being a liberal proportion of Capt Barney's estimates, and consisting mainly of clearing, grubbing and grading $181,564.

Aggregate cost of construction of the *South Missouri Railroad*:

No. of division.	Description of work.	Amount.
1	Clear'g, grubb'g, grad'g, mas. & bridg'g	$772,996
2	" " " "	1,057,496
30 m. of 3	" " " "	181,564
Total cost of clearing, grubbing, grading, masonry and bridging		2,012,056
Cost of construction with iron rail (65 lbs. p. yard) with necessary sidlings and switches,—175 miles at $7,500 per mile		1,312,500
Cost of engineer department and contingencies		190,217
Total cost of construction of the *South Missouri Railroad*, independent of the costs of construction of depots, station and engine houses, workshops &c.		— 3,514,773

We will here present the cost of construction of the *North Arkansas Railroad* as determined by an accurate average of Capt. Barney's estimates.

Total cost for clearing, grubbing, grading, masonry and bridging *North Arkansas Railroad* at $6,052.14 per mile, being the average of Capt. Barney's estimates, 160 miles	$968,343
Total cost of construction with iron rail (65 lbs. per yard) with necessary sidlings and switches, 160 miles, at $7,500 per mile	1,200,000
Cost of engineer department and contingencies	173,920
Tatal cost of the construction of the *North Arkansas Railroad*	$2,342,263

Taking the average cost of construction of the *North Arkansas Railroad*, as estimated by Capt. Barney, at $14,639 per mile, for the basis of a calculation, assuming that the cost of construction of the *North Missouri Railroad* would be more, allowing it to be $15,000 per mile, and fixing its length at 230 miles, as stated by Capt. Alderson in the *Western Journal*, vol. 5, page 199, the total cost of construction of the *North Missouri Railroad* would be $3,450,000.

By applying the same estimate of $15,000 per mile to the *Iowa and Minnesota Railroad*, 300 miles, its cost would be $4,500,000.

On the same basis, the *South Arkansas Railroad*, 120 miles, would cost $1,800,000; the *North Louisiana Railroad*, 180 miles, $2,700,000; the *New Orleans and Opelousas Railroad*, 160 miles, $2,400,000; the *New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad*, by branch to Memphis, 385 miles, $5,775,000; the *Memphis and St. Francois Railroad*, 40 miles, $600,000; the *St. Francois and the Ridge Railroad*, 100 miles, $1,500,000; the *New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad*, by branch to Helena, 325 miles, $4,875,000; the *Helena and Ridge Railroad*, 150 miles, $2,250,000.

To the sum of the cost of each route it is proper to add an item excluded from Capt. Barney's estimates, viz.: cost of construction of depots, station and engine houses, workshops &c., amounting, at a respectable estimate of $3,000 per mile, to $3,975,000, on the Little Rock route, $3,690,000 on the Memphis route, and $3,540,000 on the Helena route.

Arraying the cost of construction of the *Mississippi Valley Railroad*, along the different routes suggested, each route by itself, in tabular form the figures stand as follows:

Cost of construction of the *Mississippi Valley Railroad, via* Little Rock:

New Orleans and Opelousas Railroad		$2,400,000
North Louisiana	Do	2,700,000
South Arkansas	Do	1,800,000
North Arkansas	Do	2,342,263
South Missouri	Do	3,514,773
North Missouri	Do	3,450,000
Iowa and Minnesota	Do	4,500,000
Total cost *via* Little Rock		$20,707,036
Extra cost for equipments, 1325 miles,		3,975,000
		$24,682,036

Cost of construction of the *Mississippi Valley Railroad, via* Memphis:

New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad, by branch to Memphis		$5,775,000
Memphis and St. Francois Railroad		600,000
St. Francois and the Ridge	Do	1,500,000
South Missouri	Do	3,514,773
North Missouri	Do	3,450,000
Iowa and Minnesota	Do	4,500,000
Total cost *via* Memphis		$19,339,773
Extra cost for equipments, 1230 miles,		3,690,000
		$23,029,773

Cost of construction of the *Mississippi Valley Railroad, via* Helena:

New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad by branch to Helena		$4,875,000
Helena and the Ridge Railroad		2,250,000
South Missouri	Do	3,514,773
North Missouri	Do	3,450,000
Iowa and Minnesota	Do	4,500,000
Total cost *via* Helena		$18,589,773
Extra cost for equipments, 1180 miles,		3,540,000
		$22,129,773

From these premises it follows that the cost of construction of the *Mississippi Valley Railroad via* Helena, would be cheaper than the Memphis route by $750,000, and than the Little Rock route by $2,117,263.

If the Memphis and Little Rock Railroad be built, Memphis might hold out inducements to make its route preferable.

But advantages might be gained by and from Little Rock, and the country along its route, to produce a great preponderance in its favor.

These points can be determined only by the evidence hereafter to be adduced. May it be "done quickly,"—on the 3d Monday of November next.

The final and main question now arises: How are these $24,000,000 to be raised?

We answer: By the co-operation of individual people, Towns, Cities, Counties, Parishes, States and the Territory on the route, with the General Government—the great owner of the LAND to be improved.

Funds must and will come from individual and incorporate sources. Material and social feelings, combined with the strong interests of the North and South of the West, will make the people along the *Mississippi Valley Railroad* liberal in their aid to build it up. The anticipated enjoyment of different climes, their fruits and products, fresh, within a few hours, by means of the road, will spur the sense of the people to complete it quickly. The love of the union of the North and South will urge on its consummation. Easy access to every market from the Iron Mountain of Missouri will induce statesmen as well as capitalists to lend it their aid. Easy access to every market from the hemp and corn fields of the North and the cotton and sugar plains of the South will induce farmers, planters, merchants, manufacturers and consumers, to put their "shoulders to the wheel" of this work, and at the same time "call on Hercules for help."

The Government has helped the people, and, like the Supreme Being, the Government will help the people, who help themselves. Liberal amounts of land have been granted by the Government to aid the people in constructing other railroads. Still more liberal amounts of land will be granted by the Government to aid the people in constructing the *Mississippi Valley Railroad*—THE UNION RAILROAD OF THE NORTH AND SOUTH.

The New Orleans, Opelousas and Great Western Railroad Co. memorialized Congress at its last session to grant the right of way through the public lands and "to grant all the lands of the United States within ten miles of the said road and its St. Louis branch, on each side; or its equivalent in other lands." (See *Western Journal & Civilian*, vol. 8, page 168.)

The action of Congress, at its last session, in favor of the *Arkansas & Missouri Railroad*, manifested a liberal spirit in favor of the road to Cairo.

The State of Missouri has memorialized Congress for a grant of land in behalf of the *North Missouri Railroad.*

The charter of this road directs its route along the ridge, "as near as may be, to the northern boundary line of this State, with a view that the same may be hereafter continued northwardly into the State of Iowa, in the direction of Fort Des Moines, in that State." (See *Western Journal & Civilian*, vol. 7, page 260.)

The northern terminus of the *North Missouri Railroad* must therefore be on or near the same degree of longitude with the Falls of St. Anthony.

The road joining these two points, would afford, by means of branches to the river, the most equal privileges to all the conflicting interests in Iowa, while at the same time it would open the heart of that fertile State, and fill it with population and wealth.

To the Territory of Minnesota this road is of more vital importance than to Iowa.

Let therefore Minnesota and Iowa combine with Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana on one plan for the *Mississippi Valley Railroad.*

Let the people of the North show that they know their interests, and have the energy to promote them.

Let the *Iowa & Minnesota Railroad* be fixed, on or near a longitudinal line, in conjunction with the *North Missouri Railroad.*

Let there be action, material action, among the people in its favor.

Let memorials be sent to Congress from the North, like those from the South.

Let a joint memorial of the North and South of the West be pressed upon Congress, with facts and arguments showing our immediate wants—the undeveloped wealth of our soil and our mines

—the absolute necessity of new commercial channels that cannot be impaired by high or by low water, by explosions, by snags, or by ice,—and also showing the correct principles of States' Rights, to be applied in the disposition of the Public Domain; so that an Act may be soon passed securing every needful aid.

Finally, let the seven divisions of the road, divided among the several States and the Territory on the line, be constructed at one and the same time; so that when the *New Orleans & Opelousas* and the *North Louisiana Railroad* is in complete operation, the whole *Mississippi Valley Railroad* may be finished.

ARTICLE V.

North Missouri Railroad.

Messrs. Editors of the Western Journal & Civilian.

We desire, through the columns of your Journal, to say a few words to the friends of Internal Improvement, west of the Mississippi river. We shall not, at this time, attempt any exhibit of statistical facts. This part of the subject, we, with others, have labored to place before the public, and have endeavoured to make plain the necessity of a railroad from St. Louis northward; but half discouraged, for months past have been silent, waiting for the multitude to reflect and consider the matter, not doubting that in time the people would step forward, and act promptly for their self-preservation. And we now rejoice that the northern, southern and central interests are commingling, and are becoming to be regarded as one and the same—that the light which burst forth at New Orleans, fresh from under the rays of a tropical sun, and shot up through Louisiana and Arkansas, and taking the trail marked out by Capt. Barney for a railroad from St. Louis through Southern Missouri and Arkansas to Fulton on Red River—has at length reached St. Louis, and with the strength and vividness which it received, by the rubbing of mind against mind, every mile as it rolled northward, and her enterprising citizens imparting a new and vigorous impetus to the idea, the volume has been hurled away up through Northern Missouri, Iowa and Minnesota, to the Red river of the North, where it will waste its life-giving rays on the Selkirkers, and warming with its genial influence regions far away to the North, will melt down the icebergs which linger along the shores of the Hudson's Bay.

At the dawn of bright prospects ahead, we have reason to rejoice; and now let our motto be: Union, Harmony and Action, and there shall soon be achieved one of the most splendid schemes of internal improvements ever conceived by Americans—a railroad from New Orleans, the southern emporium, via St. Louis, the great central city of the West, to the Red river of the North.

We take the ground that this road, or line of roads, should be made as the great trunk road west of the Mississippi river; and the necessary branches will follow, and come into it, just as naturally as do the thousand tributaries, great and small, pour their floods into the Mississippi, the great trunk of rivers.

And it can be easily shown that the whole line of this road from north to south is in accordance with the laws of trade, and the necessities of the people, and must be a paying road, and vice versa, it can be as easily proven, that to run and terminate roads contrary to those fixed facts, will prove as fatal to success, as would be an attempt to turn the Mississippi river up stream.

These truths are amply demonstrated by the teachings of railroad history, in all past time. If a road be commenced in the woods, at some point on the Mississippi river, and runs out indefinitely into the country, it may be set down as a non-paying road. Roads, to be pro table, must terminate where there is a natural aggregation of the travel, produce, capital and business of the country. With these requisites, roads judiciously constructed and managed, are paying roads—without these requisites, railroad charters are dead letters on the statute book.

Of the paying character, we hold, will be the North Missouri and the St. Louis and New Orleans roads—together with all branches judiciously located. The North Missouri road running near midway between the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, one of which is closed by ice from one to three months of the year, the other closed by ice and low water for five or six months of the year, and of dangerous navigation the other six months;—we say the North Missouri road must take nearly all the business of the country lying between these rivers. This will be accomplished by plank and macadamized roads, combined with a judicious system of well located and permanently constructed branch railroads connecting the river and country towns with the central trunk road, which terminates at St. Louis, a great and growing market, and which will always be adequate to the purchase of all the surplus produce: fish, furs and peltries of the vast country from the mouth of the Missouri river to the Yellow Stone, and across to the Hudson's Bay.

In former articles we have proved satisfactorily the adaptedness of North Missouri to the construction of railroads, especially our great trunk road, a wide spreading ridge from St. Charles to the Des Moines river, not a stream to cross in its whole length, unless

it may be drawn off to the right or left, in order to save distance by cutting across some interlocking streams.

Now in view of the convention called at St. Charles, on the 10th of November, and that at St. Louis, on the third Monday of the same month, let the people come up from the whole length of the Mississippi river, and the whole breadth from the river to the mountains, and uniting on some well digested plan, all pull together, petition the Legislature at its regular session, to give us the credit of the State, to as liberal an amount as other roads now enjoy, and send up such an influence to Washington City, as will make each member of Congress feel that the rappers have hold of him, and drawing the electric sparks from his finger-ends cause his hand involuntarily and convulsively to grasp his pen, and write out a bill, giving us a just and liberal portion of wild lands to be applied to the construction of these roads.

This will build up St. Louis and New Orleans as well as a thousand towns and villages along the whole length of these roads.—But above all, it will build up and place in a more flourishing condition the farmer and mechanic, the miner and the artizan, while many an elderly matron who has scarce been cheered by a new calico, since the last vestige of her wedding prints was laid aside, will be clothed in direct importations from China, via California, El Paso and the great western road, and the South Pass of the Rocky mountains, to St. Louis and New Orleans, and all intermediate towns and neighborhoods, while at every rustle of new silken gowns the silent breathings of gratified hearts will be for blessings to rest upon the energy and enterprise of a noble brotherhood.

Western Towns.

MANKATO.—This is the name of a town recently laid out at the south bend of the Minnesota river, Minnesota Territory. We learn from the "Dubuque Herald" that at "this point a town has been laid out by a wealthy and energetic company of gentlemen residing at St. Paul, and arrangements have been made for erecting several buildings there immediately. Two steamboats run to that point now (July, 1852) twice a week from St. Paul, and they find enough to do."

The following paragraph which we extract from the same paper under date of July 27th, 1852, will give our readers some idea of the place on the map where Mankato may be found, as well as of its future prospects.

"The steamers Black Hawk and Jenny Lind are now in the trade between St. Paul and Mankato, a town at the South Bend of the Minnesota River. This town is about 180 miles from Dubuque by land, and is the center of one of the most fertile regions on the face of the earth. Douglas' Railroad project will meet the wants of that region if it should ever be matured. Till then a good wagon road should not be despised."

COMMERCIAL STATISTICS.

COMMERCE OF NEW ORLEANS.

The following statistics which we copy from the "New Orleans Commercial Bulletin," appear to have been extracted from the New Orleans *Price Current*, a paper which enjoys a high reputation for fidelity and accuracy of detail.

VALUE OF PRODUCE OF THE INTERIOR.

A TABLE, showing the receipts of the principal articles from the Interior, during the year ending 31st August, 1852, with their estimated average and total value.

Articles.	Amount.	Average.	Value.	Value corresponding receipts in 1850—51.	1841—42.
Apples, bbls.	20,356	$3 00	$61,068	$174,424	$46,274
Bacon, assorted, hhds & casks	46,734	75 00	3,505,050	2,916,120	921,812
Bacon, assorted, boxes	3,626	35 00	126,910	278,220	
Bacon Hams, hhds & tierces	38,488	70 00	2,694,160	2,668,680	
Bacon, in bulk, lbs.	281,280	8	22,502	16,450	
Bagging, pieces	60,044	13 00	780,572	903,800	783,991
Bale Rope, coils	90,272	7 50	677,040	804,180	443,149
Beans, bbls	6,598	10 00	65,980	21,180	21,986
Butter, kegs and firkins	44,786	8 00	358,288	374,835	50,572
Butter, bbls	1,778	30 00	53,340	68,000	
Beeswax, bbls	171	45 00	7,695	10,350	10,989
Beef, bbls	41,227	12 00	494,724	361,640	86,511
Beef, tierces	11,523	15 00	172,845	178,800	
Beef, dried, lbs	26,100	8	2,088	1,071	
Buffalo Robes, packs	1,300	75 00	97,500	10,850	156,100
Cotton, bales	1,429,183	34 00	48,592,222	48,756,764	24,425,115
Cornmeal, bbls.	2,514	3 00	7,542	10,986	7,528
Corn, in ear, bbls	163,008	70	114,105	38,273	357,434
Corn, shelled, sacks	1,397,132	1 20	1,676,558	1,688,608	
Cheese, boxes.	72,441	3 50	253,543	276,129	27,940
Candles, boxes	53,936	6 00	323,616	484,488	14,373
Cider, bbls	300	3 00	900	735	3,390
Coal, Western, bbls	850,000	50	425,000	350,000	55,292
Dried Apples & Peaches, bbls	804	5 00	4,020	20,559	3,956
Feathers, bags	2,065	35 00	72,275	127,575	10,422
Flaxseed, tierces	519	10 00	5,190	2,448	9,588
Flour, bbls	927,212	4 00	3,708,848	4,234,977	2,198,449
Furs, hhds, bundles & boxes	2,136		1,000,000	800,000	250,000
Hemp, bales	17,149	15 00	257,235	452,088	18,165
Hides	123,687	2 00	247,374	140,338	32,461
Hay, bales	53,434	3 00	160,302	144,843	65,540
Iron, pig, tons	62	30 00	1,860	3,800	7,084
Lard, bbls and tierces.	125,466	25 00	3,137,400	2,773,680	1,138,919
Lard, kegs.	157,689	5 00	788,445	607,724	
Leather, bundles	7,572	25 00	189,300	212,250	16,920
Lime, Western, bbls	42,305	1 25	52,881	56,607	415
Lead, pigs	267,564	3 20	856,204	1,041,616	1,053,815
Lead, bar, kegs and boxes	1,138	20 00	22,760	12,580	
Lead, white, kegs	1,368	3 00	4,104	13,510	
Molasses (estimat. crop) gals	18,300,000	22	4,026,000	625,000	450,000
Oats, bbls and sacks	463,273	75	347,454	479,741	337,969
Onions, bbls	17,184	2 00	34,368	28,558	66,676
Oil, Linseed, bbls	758	26 00	19,708	6,230	10,675
Oil, Castor, bbls	4,291	28 00	120,148	207,250	183,300
Oil, Lard, bbls	14,114	28 00	395,192	446,082	

VALUE OF PRODUCE OF THE INTERIOR.
[*Continued.*]

Articles.	Amount.	Average.	Value.	Value corresponding receipts in 1850—51.	1841—42.
Potatoes, bbls	228,095	2 00	456,190	325,844	$39,302
Pork, tierces and bbls.	276,606	16 00	4,425,696	3,433,008	1,542,467
Pork, boxes	303	35 00	10,605	49,500	
Pork, hhds	2,478	30 00	198,240	73,860	
Pork, in bulk, pounds.	8,800,000	7	616,000	578,264	
Porter and Ale, bbls	406	10 00	4,060	3,840	4,112
Packing Yarn, reels	2,093	7 00	14,651	29,330	4,552
Skins, Deer, packs	998	25 00	24,950	27,975	32,194
Skins, Bear, packs	16	15 00	240	105	2,500
Shot, kegs	2,704	25 00	67,600	51,100	51,240
Soap, boxes	5,308	3 00	15,924	28,452	5,796
Staves, M	7,319	38 00	278,122	315,000	35,000
Sugar [estimated crop] hhds.	236,547	50 00	11,827,350	12,678,180	3,600,000
Spanish Moss, bales	4,372	8 00	34,976	35,844	12,192
Tallow, bbls	1,307	20 00	26,140	147,936	76,665
Tobacco, leaf, hhds.	75,816	75 00	5,686,200	6,327,600	
Tobacco, strips, hhds	11,741	$125	1,467,625	1,365,000	
Tobacco, stems, hhds	2,118	20 00	42,360	44,000	
Tobacco, chewing, kegs&box.	4,779	20 00	95,580	123,450	3,699,160
Twine, bundles and boxes	2,341	8 00	18,728	31,560	10,790
Vinegar, bbls	92	6 00	552	534	1,563
Whiskey, bbls	146,352	7 50	1,097,640	1,261,928	36,007
Window Glass, boxes.	19,251	2 50	48,127	82,140	11,044
Wheat, bbls and sacks	64,918	2 00	129,836	177,594	337,215
Other various articles, estimated at			5,500,000	5,000,000	3,000,000
Total value Dollars			108,051,708	106,924,083	$45,716,040
Total in 1850—51			106,924,083		
Total in 1849—50			96,897,873		
Total in 1848—49			81,989,692		

The tonnage entered at the port of New Orleans from June 30, 1851, to June 30, 1852, 2266 vessels, 910,855,08, showing an excess over the previous year of 212 vessels and 142,827.04 tons. Tonnage cleared, same period, 2202 vessels, of 929,042.66 tonnage, which is an excess over 1850–51 of 105 vessels and 154,960.92 tons.

Exports of American produce to foreign countries, for the year ending June 30, $48,076,197; do. coastwise, $28,268,372; do. of foreign produce to foreign countries, $250,716; total, $76,595,285.

Imports of Specie, year ending August 31, $6,278,523; 1850—51, $7,937.119: 1849—50, $3,792,662; 1848—49, $2,501,-250; 1847—48, $1,845,808.

It will be seen that, although the receipts of cotton show an excess in quantity of 434,147 bales, there is an actual decrease in value of $164,542. The excess of value in the crop of molasses is $1,400,500, and the deficiency in sugar $850,830. With a considerable decrease in the quantity of pork, there is an excess in value of $992,688. There is an excess in bacon and bulk meat of $592,373; in lard of $544,441, and in corn of only $63,782: and there is a deficiency in tobacco of $539,515; in flour of $526,129; in oats of $132,287; in whiskey of $164,288; and in lard oil of $50,892. The aggregate value of the products of the hog is $15,-131,755.

LITERARY DEPARTMENT.

ARCTIC SEARCHING EXPEDITION.

A Journal of a Boat-Voyage through Rupert's Land and the Arctic Sea, in search of the Discovery ships under command of Sir John Franklin, with an Appendix on the Physical Geography of North America. By Sir JOHN RICHARDSON, C. B., F. R. S. &c. &c. New York, Harper and Brothers.

Review by Dr. Proul.

Conclusion.

At the junction of Clear-water with the Elk or Athabasca river, the banks are formed by limestone strata covered by a thick deposit of bituminous shale. This formation which probably corresponds to the Marcellus shale of the New York system, forms the banks of the Athabasca for some 36 miles below the junction of Clear-water river.

Three miles below the mouth of Red river a copious spring of mineral pitch issues from a crevice in a cliff composed of sand and bitumen; several small birds were found suffocated in the pitch.

These limestone and bituminous formations were observed for many miles in descending the Athabasca, and they seem to prevail generally through the country. The bitumen flows readily into pits dug a few feet below the surface.

The Athabasca river rises near the base of Mount Brown, a peak of the Rocky Mountains, 16,000 feet above the ocean. Its course in a straight line to the mouth of Clear river is 300 miles. The elevation of its source is probably 7 or 8000 feet. Lesser Slave Lake, about midway of its source, is estimated by Capt. Lefroy to be 1800 feet above the sea. Some of the tributaries of the Oregon arise very near the head of the Athabasca, and some of the feeders of the Sackatchewan take their origin not far to the southward. It may be considered as the source of the Mackenzie.

The height of Lake Athabasca above the ocean is estimated by Capt. Lefroy at 600 feet. Its basin offers another instance of the softer strata having been swept away at the line of their junction with the primitive rocks.

A delta, intersected by several channels, exists at the junction of Peace river with Athabasca Lake and its outlet. The source of Finlay's branch of this river is nearly in the same parallel with its mouth, but in its course the trunk of the river makes a great curve to the southward, and its southern tributaries rise in the same mountains from which Frazer river issues on the west side of the Rocky Mountains, the upper waters of the Peace river coming in fact through a gap in the chain which forms one of the passes leading to the Pacific coast.

The vegetation of this district is thus described: "The oaks, the elms, the ashes, the Weymuth pine, and pitch pine, which reach the Sackatchewan basin, are wanting here, and the balsam-fir is rare; but as these trees form no prominent feature of the landscape in the former quarter, no marked change in the woodland scenery takes place in any part of the Mackenzie river district until we approach the shores

of the Arctic sea. The white spruce continues to be the predominating tree in dry soils whether rich or poor; the Banksian pine occupies a few sandy spots; the black spruce skirts the marshes; and the balsam-poplar and aspen fringe the streams; the latter also springs up in places where the white spruce has been destroyed by fire. The canoe-birch becomes less abundant, is found chiefly in rocky districts, and is very scarce north of the Arctic circle. It still, however, attains a good size in the sheltered valleys of the Rocky Montains, up to the 65th parallel. Willows, dwarf birches, alders, roses, brambles, gooseberries, white cornel, and mooseberry, form the underwood on the margins of the forest; but there is no substitute for the heath, gorse, and broom, which render the English wild ground so gay. On the barren lands, indeed, the heath has representatives in the Lapland rhododendron, the *Azalea*, *Kalmia*, and *Andromeda tetragona*, but these are almost buried among the *Cornicullariae* and *Cetraria nivalis* of the dry spots, or the *Cetraria islandica*, and mosses of the moister places, and scarcely enrich the colors of the distant hills."

Granite knolls and ledges forming rapids were found, as our party proceed down Slave river from lake Athabasca; an extensive cliff of limestone with bitumen in its seams, is found 30 miles below Fort Chepewyan. The clustered nests of large colonies of the republican swallow (*Hirundo fulva*) adhere to the ledges of the limestone cliffs, and the bank swallow has pierced innumerable holes in the sandy brows."

That part of Slave river which flows over so many ledges, and which forms so many cascades giving rise to frequent portages between the Isle de Carreboeuf and the Portage of the Drowned, traverses the northwestern flank of the table land which supports the basin of the Athabasca, a line extended from this point to the Rocky Mountains nearly S. W., and another prolonged to the N. E., would indicate the limit of the Athabasca system towards the Northwest.

Some idea may be formed of the temperature of this latitude, 60° N., in July, from the following extract: "The power of the sun, this day, in a cloudless sky, was so great, that Mr. Rae and I were glad to take shelter in the water while the crews were engaged on the portages. The irritability of the human frame is either greater in these northern latitudes, or the sun, notwithstanding its obliquity, acts more powerfully upon it than near the equator; for I have never felt its direct rays so oppressive within the tropics as I have experienced them to be on some occasions in the high latitudes. The luxury of bathing at such times is not without alloy; for, if you choose the mid-day, you are assailed in the water by the *Tabani*, who draw blood in an instant with their formidable lancets; and if you select the morning or evening, then clouds of thirsty musquitoes, hovering around, fasten on the first part that emerges. Leeches also infest the still waters, and are prompt in their aggressions."

After leaving the Portage of the Drowned, the granitic and volcanic rocks disappear, and are seen no more on the course of the Mackenzie to the Arctic ocean. The granitic rocks are found flanking the northeast and eastern shores of Great Bear Lake, the last in the line of junction between the primitive and silurian rocks. Some distance up Salt River, one of the tributaries of Slave River, seven or eight co-

pious springs flow from the base of a long ridge, and spreading their waters over the plain, deposit much pure common salt in large cubical crystals. The Athabasca and Mackenzie River districts are supplied from these salines. Gypsum is found near these springs. From the fossils collected on Slave river being silurian, Dr. Richardson is inclined to refer this formation to the Onondaga salt group of the New York system. Fish abound in Slave River and Slave Lake. The *Inconnu* or *Salmo Mackenzii*, and the *Coregoni*, or White fish, are the staple fish of the lakes: here pike, burbot and trout are also found of excellent quality The country between the Portage of the Drowned and Slave Lake is generally level, with sandy terraces rising from the river to the height of from 20 to 80 feet; near the Lake the banks are alluvial. A delta is formed at the mouth like that formed by the Athabasca; it is at least 20 miles in extent.

July 16th our party reached Fort Resolution. "Domestic cattle have been introduced at this place, and at the posts generally throughout the country, even up to Peel's River and Fort Good Hope, within the Arctic circle." At no place on our route were the musquitoes in denser clouds than this day at Fort Resolution." * * *

"Hay River enters the lake at the distance of eleven or twelve miles from Canoe River. It is formed of two branches, the westernmost of which rises from Hay Lake and the other one originates not far from the banks of Peace River, and flows past Fort Vermilion. Hay River Fort, now abandoned, stood at the junction of the two. On the eastern branch, the country is an agreeable mixture of prairie and woodland, and this is the limit of those vast prairies which extend from New Mexico. Below the forks of Hay River the country is covered with a forest intersected by swamps.

The range of the Wapiti is nearly coincident with the boundaries of these prairies. The bison, though inhabiting the prairies in vast bands, frequents also the wooded country, and once, I believe, almost all parts of it down to the coasts of the Atlantic; but it had not until lately crossed the Rocky Mountain range, nor is it now known on the Pacific slope, except in a very few places. Its most northern limit is the Horn Mountain mentioned above. The musk-ox does not come to the south of the Arctic circle."

In latitude 61 the barking crow, the *Corvus Americanus*, finds its limit. "It becomes rare before it ceases altogether to be seen, and we have not noticed it in flocks since leaving the Sackatchewan .In its gregarious habits on that river it resembles the European rook, but differs from that bird in the care with which it conceals its nest."

The following extract will give us a view of the structure of this region: "Between Desmarais's Fishery, on Slave Lake, and Fort Simpson, the direct distance is about 155 geographical miles. In the wider parts of the river the coast is shelving, and not easily

approached, in boats, from the shallowness of the water; but in the narrower places the beach is steep, and the channel is full of boulders. In a few spots where sections of the strata are visible, a bituminous shale, containing many fragments of the small pteropodous shell, *Tentaculites Fissurella*, indicates the formation to be the same with that on the Athabasca River and Slave Lake, which has been said above to be probably the Marcellus shale. Between the old fort and Hare-skin River, the basis of the bank is formed of a grayish green slate-clay, which, under the influence of the weather, breaks into scales like wacké, and at last forms a tenacious clay. The whole banks of the river seem to belong to a shale formation; but from the want of induration of the beds, they have crumbled into a slope more or less steep, and the capping of sand, clay and boulders has fallen down and covered the declivity. On the south, a long even rising ground, named the Trout Mountain, which runs parallel to the rivor at a distance of from 10 to 20 miles, is visible at intervals the whole way; and a similar but higher range, named the Horn Mountain, exists on the north."

The following notice of the limit of the Cerealia is interesting: "Barley is usually sown here (Fort Simpson) from the 20th to the 25th of May, and is expected to be ripe on the 20th of August, after an interval of 92 days. In some seasons it has ripened on the 15th. Oats, which take longer time, do not thrive quite so well, and wheat does not come to maturity. Potatoes yield well, and no disease has as yet affected them, though the early frosts sometimes hurt the crop. Barley, in favorable seasons, gives a good return at Fort Norman, which is further down the river; and potatoes and various garden vegetables are also raised there. The 65th parallel of latitude may, therefore, be considered as the northern limit of the *Cerealia* in this meridian; for though in good seasons, and in warm, sheltered spots, a little barley might possibly be reared at Fort Good Hope, the attempts hitherto made there have failed. In Siberia it is said that none of the corn tribe are found north of 60°. But in Norway barley is reported to be cultivated, in certain districts, under the 70th parallel. It takes 3 months, usually, to ripen on the Mackenzie, and on our arrival at Fort Simpson we found it in full ear, having been sown 75 days previously. In October, 1836, a pit sunk by Mr. M'Pherson, in a heavy mixture of sand and clay, to the depth of 16 feet 10 inches, revealed 10 feet 7 inches of thawed soil on the surface, and 6 feet 3 inches of a permanently frozen layer, beneath which the ground was not frozen."

Here is a track for a railroad, marked out from the Mackenzie to the Pacific coast, if the *mania* should last until this upper region shall have become populated. "Fort Simpson stands on an island at the junction of the River of the Mountains (*Rivière aux Liards*) with the Mackenzie. This large tributary originates in the recesses of the Rocky Mountains, by many small streams

which, uniting, form two branches. Both branches rise to the westward of the higher peaks, and afford another of the many instances of streams of magnitude crossing the chain."

In nine hours after leaving Fort Simpson, our party gained the first view of the Rocky Mountains, which are described as follows: "When the mountains are first seen, in descending the river, they present an assemblage of conical peaks, rising apparently about 2000 feet above the valley; and it is not until we come opposite to the end of the first mountain, that we observe them to be disposed in parallel ridges, having a direction of about south-southwest and north-northeast; which makes an angle of rather more than 45 degrees with the axis of the great chain, from which they project like spurs. The circumstance of the valleys pervading the chain transversely, though with more or less of ascent, explains the reason of the principal rivers on both the eastern and western slopes having their sources beyond the axis of the range, and flowing through it. From some passages in Dr. Hooker's letters I infer that the Himalayas have a similar configuration."

* * * Traders who have crossed from the Atlantic to the Pacific slopes of the continent say that there are 14 or 15 ranges of hills, and that when they are viewed from the summit of a peak, the mountain tops appear to be crowded together in great confusion, like a sea of conical billows."

The geological formations on this portion of the Mackenzie are thus referred to: "On the Mackenzie, a shaly formation makes the chief part of the banks, and also much of the undulating valleys between the elevated spurs. It is based on horizontal beds of limestone, and in some places of sandstone, which abut against the inclined strata of the lofty wall-like ridges, or rest partially on their edges. Covering the shaly beds, there exists in many places a deposit of sand, sometimes cohering so as to form a friable sandstone; and where a good section of the bank occurs, a capping of gravel and boulders, of various thickness, is seen crowning the whole. The shale crumbles readily, and often takes fire spontaneously, occasioning the ruin of the bank, so that it is only by the encroachments of the river carrying away the debris that the true structure is revealed. The boulders that have dropped from above pave the beach in many places as closely and regularly as if it were a work of art, the passage of ice over them driving them firmly and evenly into the bed of tenacious clay which the shale in breaking down produces."

"I have no evidence whereby the geological age of the shale may be certainly deduced, but am inclined to consider it as belonging to the epoch of the Marcellus deposit, on account of its exact lithological resemblance to the bituminous beds of Athabasca River, and the occurrence of the *Tentaculites Fissurella* in the fragments which line the beach at the west end of Great Slave Lake. The difficulty of deciding upon the age of the beds through which

the river flows is increased by the occurrence among them of a tertiary lignite formation, which also takes fire spontaneously. This general account of the rocks of the Mackenzie is here introduced to facilitate the subsequent descriptions of such points as I landed upon "

Among the animals of this region the Ovis Montana, the mountain sheep, or the Foolish Bear of the Slave Indians, is found as far as the Arctic ocean; its hair is coarse and not wooly. The goat-antelope, Antilocapra Americana, which has a long-stapled wool, does not range above the Liards River. The Reindeer frequents the valleys here, and the moose deer ranges nearly to the Arctic Sea. The musk-ox and buffalo are not found in this region, the latter being limited to the Horn Mountain, and the former keeps within the Arctic circle to the east of the Mackenzie. The little Pika, or tail-less hare, is found here. Say's grouse, Tetrao Sayi, has not been killed further north than Nohannè Bute; the pin-tailed grouse is found near the Arctic Sea; the Tetrao Canadensis is found on Peel's River; the willow and white-tailed ptarmigans are also found here, the last named is an Alpine species. The American magpie has not been seen to the north Liards River, and is rare even there.

From the first spur of the Rocky Mountains chain to the points where the Mackenzie breaks through the second or the Rock by the River's Side, shaly beds of bituminous limestones and sandstones prevail, and the surface is often covered with boulders and gravel. The formations here seem to be similar to those on the Clear-water and Athabasca Rivers.

A very interesting tertiary formation abounding in coal and lignite was found, between Fort Norman and Bear Lake River. We extract a part of our author's notice of it, as it will throw light upon the formation of our own coal measure and account for the pseudo-vulcanoes found upon the Missouri River: "The *coal*, when recently extracted from the beds, is massive, and most generally shows the woody structure distinctly, the beds appearing to be composed of pretty large trunks of trees lying horizontally, and having their woody fibres and layers much twisted and contorted, similar to the white spruce now growing in exposed situations in the same latitude. Specimens of this coal, examined by Mr. Bowerbank, were pronounced by him to be decidedly of coniferous origin, and the structure of the wood to be more like that of *Pinus* than *Araucaria*; but on this latter point he was not so certain. It is probable that the examination of a greater variety of specimens would detect several kinds of wood in the coal, as a bed of fossil leaves connected with the formation reveals the existence at the time of various dicotyledonous trees, propably *Acerineæ*, and of one which I am inclined to consider as belonging to the yew tribe. To these I shall refer again."

"When exposed for even a short time to the atmosphere, the coal splits into rhomboidal fragments, which again separate into thin layers, so that it is difficult to preserve a piece large enough to show the woody structure in perfection. Much of it falls eventually into a coarse powder; and if exposed to the action of moist air in the mass it takes fire, and burns with a fetid smell, and little smoke or flame, leaving a brownish-red ash, not one-tenth of the original bulk of coal taken from the purer beds, for some contain much more earthy matter."

"From the readiness with which the coal takes fire spontaneously, the beds are destroyed as they become exposed to the atmosphere; and the bank is constantly tumbling down, so that it is only when the debris have been washed away by the river, that good sections are exposed. The beds were on fire near Bear River, when Sir Alexander Mackenzie discovered them, in 1785, and the smoke with flame visible by night, has been present in some part or other of the formation ever since."

"From one to four beds of coal are exposed above the water level on the banks of the river, the thickest of which exceeds 3 yards, and was visible a short way above Bear River in the autumn only —the Mackenzie being then seven or eight feet below its spring level."

Beds of gravel, potter's clay and pipe-clay are found associated with the coal. The natives use the pipe-clay as food in times of great scarcity, a custom which Humboldt says, prevails with a tribe on the Oronoka.

It is evident from the following account that a student of nature may find more to interest him in this ice-bound region than he ever dreamed of in his boldest closet reveries. "As has been already said, the general aspect of the forest does not alter in the descent of the Mackenzie. The white spruce continues to be the chief tree. In this quarter it attains a girth of four or five feet, and a height of about sixty in a growth of from two to three hundred years, as shown by the annual layers of wood. One tree, cut down in a sheltered valley near Clark's Hill, measured the unusual length of 122 feet, but was comparatively slender. Most of the timber is twisted, particularly where the trees grow in exposed situations. The Banksian pine was not traced to the north of Great Bear Lake River; but the black spruce, in a stunted form, is found on the borders of swamps as far as the woods extend. The dogwood, silvery oleaster (*Elæagnus argentea*), *Shepherdia*, and *Amelanchier* grow on banks that in Europe would be covered with gorse and broom, and the southern *Salix candida* is replaced by the more luxuriant and much handsomer *Salix speciosa*, which is the prince of the willow family."

Besides these the *Hedysarum Mackenzii* and *boreale*, the Dryas Drummondii, the Androsace Chamæjasmi, Calipso borealis, the lady slipper (Cypripedia), and many other flowering plants adorn

and many feathered inhabitants enliven the forests of this district on the borders of the Arctic. "The cheerful and familiar *Sylvia æstiva* is one of the earliest arrivals in spring, coming in company with the well-known American robin (*Turdus migratorius*) and the purple and rusty grakles. A little later, the varied thrush makes its appearance from the shores of the Pacific. The white-bellied swallow (*Hirundo bicolor*) breeds, at Fort Norman, in holes of rotten trees; and the *Sialia arctica*, a representative of the blue-bird so common in the United States, enlivens the banks of the Mackenzie, coming, however, not from the Atlantic coasts, but from the opposite side of the Rocky Mountain range. On the Mackenzie, there is an intermingling of the floras of both coasts, as well as of the migratory feathered tribes, the Rocky Mountain range not proving a barrier to either."

The Bonapartean gull, the short-billed gull, the harlequin duck, the golden-winged woodpecker, and other birds are found about great Bear Lake. Frogs are said to reach to the 68th parallel; a few snakes to within the Arctic circle, while turtles are limited to the 51st degree of north latitude.

But little occurs to excite interest in the voyage from Bear Lake to the Arctic sea. Down to Fort Good Hope, bituminous shales, sandstones and limestones prevail, which are referred by Dr. Richardson to the oolite.

The *predacity* of the falcon is thus noticed: "This falcon is not rare throughout the Mackenzie, where it preys on the passenger pigeon and smaller birds. Mr. M'Pherson related to me one of its feats, which he witnessed some years previously as he was ascending the river. A white owl (*Styx nyctea*), in flying over a cliff, seized and carried off an unfledged peregrine in its claws, and, crossing to the opposite beach, lighted to devour it. The parent bird followed, screaming loudly, and, stooping with extreme rapidity, killed the owl by a single blow, after which it flew quickly back to its nest. On coming to the spot, Mr. M'Pherson picked up the owl, but, though he examined it narrowly, he could not detect in what part the death blow had been received; nor could he, from the distance, perceive whether the peregrine struck it with wing or claws."

On the 28th of July, our party met at the Ramparts a body of Indians, the first met with on the route from Cumberland House.

"On the top of Rampart Cliffs we found a large body of Hare Indians encamped. This is a common summer haunt of these people, who resort thither to avail themselves of the productive fishery which exists above the defile. At this time, owing to the river not having subsided so rapidly as usual, they were taking only a small number of fish, and, consequently, were complaining of want of food. This people, and most of the tribes who live the whole year on the immediate banks of the Mackenzie, depend greatly for subsistence on the hare (*Lepus Americanus*). Of these animals

they kill incredible numbers; but every six or seven years, from some cause, the hares disappear suddenly throughout the whole country; so that not one can be found either dead or alive. In the following year a few re-appear; and in three years they are as numerous as before. The Canadian lynx migrates when the hares, on which it chiefly preys, become scarce. The musk-rat is subject to periodical murrains, when great numbers lie dead in their nests; but the dead hares are not found, whence we may conjecture that when their numbers become excessive they disappear by migration. I could not learn, however, that the Indians had ever seen them traveling in large bands."

"The Hare Indians are a tribe of the Tinnè or Chepewyan nation, and speak a language differing only as a provincial dialect. They are, like the rest of the nation, a timid race, and live in continual dread of the Eskimos, whom they suppose not only to be very warlike and ferocious, but also endowed with great conjuring powers, by which they can compass the death of an enemy at a distance. The possession of fire-arms does not embolden the Tinné to risk an open encounter with the Eskimo bowmen; and unless when they are assembled in large numbers, as we found them at the Ramparts, they seldom pitch a tent on the banks of the river, but skulk under the branches of a tree, cut down so as to appear to have fallen naturally from the brow of the cliff; and they do not venture to make a smoke, or rear any object that can be seen from a distance. On the first appearance of a canoe or boat, they hide themselves, with their wives and children, in the woods, until they have reconnoitred, and ascertained the character of the object of their fears. More than once in our descent of the river, when we had landed to cook breakfast or supper, and were not at all aware of the vicinity of natives, a family would crawl from their hiding-places, and come to our fire. They always pleaded want of food; and as their wretched appearance spoke strongly of their necessities, they invariably shared our meals; but not unfrequently they sold us a fish or two before we parted; being probably what they had reserved for their next meal, if we had not furnished them with one. We never found them with abundance of food; for, in times of plenty, they do not think it necessary to lay up a stock, but let the future provide for itself."

"It is supposed that formerly the Eskimos were in the habit of ascending the river to the Ramparts, to collect fragments of flinty slate for lance and arrow-points; but they have been only once so far up, since the trading-posts were established. An old Indian, who was alive within a few years, told Mr. Bell that on that occasion he was wounded by an arrow; but that he succeeded in escaping to the top of the cliff, from whence he killed two Eskimos with his fowling-piece."

The Mackenzie forms an extensive delta before it reaches the ocean, similar but more extensive than those formed by the Atha-

basca and Slave Rivers, before they enter their respective Lakes. Our travelers reached the Arctic ocean on the 3d of August, where we must take leave of them, as we have already extended this abstract beyond the limits assigned us, in endeavouring to present some of the more important facts and discoveries, and at the same time preserving a view of the entire line of travel through Rupert's Land, a portion of our continent whose physical characters are so ably portrayed in the work before us. We regret that we are prevented from selecting many of the beautiful descriptions of this country, and more of the facts which relate to its geography and natural history.

That part of the work which refers to the further progress of the expedition, to the difficulties and dangers which Dr. Richardson and his party met with, in navigating the Arctic, the loss of their vessels amidst the icefloes, their toilsome journey up the Copper Mine river to Fort Confidence on Great Bear Lake, where they went into winter quarters, is full of interest, but such details are familiar to those who have read the several Arctic voyages already published.

The result of this expedition as well as that of all others undertaken to relieve this brave and intrepid commander, this noble-hearted and excellent man, is well known to every one.

Sir John Richardson after remaining in winter-quarters at Fort Confidence, returned to England in 1849. The facts and observations made at this post will prove of much value to science. As an addition to his narrative, he gives us a Journal of Mr. Rae's Expedition—Four chapters on the manners and customs of the various Indian tribes inhabiting Rupert's Land; a discourse on Physical Geography, one on the geographical distribution of plants, a catalogue of insects, a chapter on climatology, and several vocabularies of the Indian tribes of this region, all of which materially enhance the value of the work. It may be considered as one of the richest contributions to general knowledge which has appeared in the present age, and should be in the library of every intelligent reader and true lover of science. We trust the Messrs. Harpers' in their next edition, will give us a map with the work; this was an oversight in its publication.

LIGHT OF LOVE.

We hear of rich pearls in the waters below,
Bright stars in the heavens above;
But yet there's a ray which neither bestow:
'Tis the mild, liquid glance of true love.

This, this is the jewel, the fairest on earth,
That charms even Angels on high,
That 'rouses faint spirits of glorious worth,
To win their way home in the sky.

21*st August*, 1851.

ORATORY.

Random Thoughts by an Occasional Writer.

NO. V.

"If we represent to ourselves the numerous assemblies of Athens or Rome, in which the greatest interests of those States are considered, and where the orator from the tribunal of harangues reigns by his eloquence over an immense people who hear him with a profound silence interrupted only by applause and acclamations; of all that the world ever contained of magnificent in appearance or most capable of dazzling the mind, is there any thing so grand, so soothing to self-love as this * * * * * This is the talent that exalts the orator above the vulgar of mankind and almost above humanity itself."—[*Rollin.*]

It is gratifying to believe that amidst all the vicissitudes of time, though for a moment a cloud may have rested on the intelligence of the world, in the main, the intellectual improvement of mankind has been progressive; and the channel of human knowledge has been broadening and deepening as it has come down to us from remoter generations.

Since the extinguishment of the lights of knowledge in the wreck of the ancient Republics we have seen all that was lost, in many instances, entirely recovered. In others we have had occasion to remark the vast superiority in extent as well as value of modern attainments.

It may, however, be observed that the general fact in this case as in many others is not without its exceptions; and in certain particulars a regard for truth requires us to yield the palm of merit to the ancients. Among these *oratory* may be mentioned as not the least remarkable. This is an art which it would seem was designed to flourish contemporaneously with learning: and to exhibit its maturest growth and greenest vigor when learning asserts most triumphantly her dominion over the mind of man. Nevertheless it appears to have declined in the same degree that the sciences have advanced, and knowledge has spread its influence abroad.

Why is it that while many other arts and sciences have made such immeasurable acquisitions, the art of speaking, their twin sister, and coequal luminary in the constellation of letters should have nearly dwindled out of sight.

Among all the faculties of our nature, none is more valuable, none contributes more to the dignity of man than that of speech. Possessed of this he rises at once above the level of the mere animal creation.

It is by the communion and collision of thought that reason is stimulated into action.

Emulation springs out of the capacity to exchange our ideas, and to emulation justly belong the power, the struggle and the triumph of genius. It is speech that ministers alike to our most common, as well as our greatest wants.

It is our readiest and most reliable dependance in every emergency. How great therefore, should be the inducements to develop all its native powers and latent energies, and to call forth all its inherent graces and attractions. Who has not seen the value of an ability to speak with self-possession merely before a public audience? Whose condition in life is so obscure, whose so high that he may not be required to speak in defence of his liberty, his character, or his life?

Recurring to the past, how many recollections arise upon the mind, of empires suddenly mounting to celebrity, or governments revolutionized; when old land marks have been blotted out, and confusion and disorder have assumed the places of peace and quiet; where in the one case it has been the distinguished share of the orator, to summon the energies of a nation to the great work, and in the other to stand forth a dauntless advocate of truth and mercy curbing the passions of lawless men, and staying the hand of violence.

It is not a little surprising that such an art should have diminished ever so slightly in the respect of the world; appealing so powerfully as it does to the pride of man; and invoking in its pursuit the loftiest motives of human ambition.

Rome and Athens, more than any other nations, were the nurses of oratory. Of all their Gods and Goddesses Mercury alone appeared to challenge a pre-eminent adoration: and in proportion to the offerings they laid at his feet, did he reward

them with outpourings of his inspiration. Jupiter was reverenced for the thunders which he brandished; but often ere the bolt had fallen, his arm was paralized, and his vengeance dissipated by the melting strains of this enchanting Divinity. So high was the regard in which the *speaking art* was held, that under the authority of senates, public institutions were founded, and teachers employed to preside over them in the instruction of youth.

Here were produced the most perfect models of oratory the world has ever seen. But why is it, I have asked, that after the lapse of so many centuries, when even the improvements in the single science of geography must fail to suggest an adequate idea of the extension of knowledge, when old sciences have been making so many strides towards perfection, and new ones formerly unknown, have been brought to light, pouring upon the mind such a flood of sublime and beautiful images, oratory in the meanwhile should have been retrograding? The moderns may justly boast of their Lockes, their Bacons, their Newtons, their Davys and their Franklins, names that shine as stars of the first magnitude in the heavens of moral and natural philosophy and astronomy, but where shall we find a Hortensius or a Cicero, a Pericles or a Demosthenes? Alas—nowhere!

It would not be an uninstructing or uninteresting inquiry: what are the causes of those revolutions in taste or sentiment that at different periods of human affairs have widely diverted the course of thought, and sometimes totally arrested the march of improvement? Certainly, we can have no motive to disparage the character of those specimens of oratory which have won an unbounded applause in Europe and America during the two past centuries: and which have been often supposed to have reached the acmé of human powers.

It may well be conceded that such names as Somers, Chatham, Curran, Sheridan, Bossuet, Massillon, Henry, Pinkney, Clay and Webster will ever stand upon the historic page in close association with all that is profound in logic, or splendid in imagination. But these are not the only essentials to a perfect oratory: and he whose claims to distinction, (however eminent they may be,) can rest on nothing further, is destined to shine with a diminished luster.

Such is the stamp of the best oratory of modern times. It falls short: far short of what it might be. It is not the light of the sun, eclipsing by his refulgent beams all other lights. It is rather that of the moon paling without hiding the lesser stars. Whether we consider the effect produced by the ancient orators on the minds of those to whom they spoke; or the opinions of the most competent judges of their day, touching the degree of excellence which they had reached, we shall be forced to admit the inferiority of the moderns.

When Demosthenes was to speak on any important occasion, we are told, that the report going forth drew all ingenious men to Athens, as to the greatest wonder of the world. And there was a time in Rome when all the wealth of India would not have been half so attracting, nor could all the spices of Arabia have breathed half such fragrance to a Roman audience, as the tongue of Tully.

But to return from this digression: to what cause are we to attribute the inferior character of our modern orators? Are we to say, there are no longer any occasions adapted to that higher order of the art exhibited by the ancient masters? Shall we say, that tyrants were once more cruel and oppressive, and the spirit of liberty more ardent in its aspirations? Or shall we admit that other more ridiculous excuse, that nature is growing old, and is at last incapable of producing works of as solid merit as she did in days of yore?

These reasons, if they deserve the name, have not been adverted to for the purpose of discussion: but rather by leaving them to show their own futility, to direct the mind of the reader more readily to the truth. It is not unnatural that we should frame excuses to cover our imbecility, but it is unmanly to do so. There is no question, we presume, but that the discovery of the art of printing, about the middle of the 15th century, exerted an influence unfavorable to the promotion of eloquence. This was also the era of the revival of letters. The speaking art which had always been the principal medium of popular information, awakening from the sleep of ages, found a rival in the press. Composition was easier than oratory. To reach an eminence in it required far less time and study. Withal it was adapted to operate through the medium of the press upon a much more extended sphere. Oratory under these circumstances first, fell into the back ground, and soon after ceased entirely to be cultivated as an art. It never has been taught in modern times, as it was by the Greeks and Romans. There is really no education of our modern orators at all as such. It was remarked by an American

author, in 1841, that "among the numerous colleges with which our country abounds, there is not a single one endowed with a professorship of elocution." A few lessons in declamation to wear off his embarrassment as it is expressed, is about the extent of all that can be denominated the education of the modern orator. With this, he is ushered forth upon the arena a candidate for honors and distinction. The result is, that some borne up by the strong wing of genius, have succeeded beyond all reasonable expectation; but oftener than otherwise, disappointment has marked the course of the youthful aspirant. The space appropriated to these remarks is small: but a few moments employed in elucidating the ancient method may not be regarded as wholly lost. The education of a Greek or Roman orator was *sui generis*, and commenced at the earliest possible age. The regulation of the voice came first: and this was effected as well by rehearsals as the less embarrassing course of causing the pupil to apply his rules in conversation. In this way all the force and melody and modulation of tone of which the human organs are susceptible, were readily acquired at the age in which imitation is easiest, and before habit has become inveterate. This was the source of that clear distinct articulation conveying every word and every syllable of every word directly to the ear of the listener: of that ravishing harmony of intonation, for which the ancient orators were so famous; and which whether falling in whispers, or rising with majesty and power above the commotions of the most turbulent popular assemblies, it has been said, could almost compensate the hearer for the want of argument. "Action" was another part of tuition. What Demosthenes thought of its importance, is known to every one. To adjust the person to the happiest attitudes; to accustom its members to assume every necessary posture with ease and grace: to represent and enforce every emotion with a fitting natural sign, was the work not of a day, a week or a year; but of many years of care and study. A critical acquaintance with the meaning of terms, indeed a perfect knowledge of language was another indispensable requisite in the opinion of the masters. Accordingly, we are informed, it was sometimes contested between them, whether one could express a sentiment by a greater variety of chaste and elegant phrases, or the other by more appropriate natural signs. To penetrate into the inmost recesses of the human heart, to scan its impulses, and analyze its motives, to learn its fortresses and its passes, to invoke with equal facility and power, the reason and the passions of their auditors, was the crowning effect of their system. And hence, it is they are described, on certain great occasions, as speaking rather like Gods than men. They "thundered and lightened," they broke up the fountains of the deep, and sent them pouring forward in a resistless flood; again at their bidding the angry billows retired sullenly back, and sunk into their secret homes. This is the *oratory* which it is said "shook distant thrones, and caused the extremities of the earth to tremble." But its like is no longer to be found among men. Once, no work of genius was thought to depend so essentially, upon great parts and industry as to speak in public; but now there is scarcly anything that we undertake to do with less consideration.

THE SPIRIT-BRIDE.

1.

My mind often wanders, and roams through the world,
Not only through this, but with pinions unfurl'd,
It soars through the clouds, and with rapturous eye,
Catches visions of bliss, in the realms of the sky.

2.

Then again it alights, by the brow of wild mountains,
Where mingle together, bright cascades and fountains,
Where the carol of birds, and the dashing of spray,
Are as pleasant as zephyrs, with flowers at play.

3

But these charms delight not, although they are, even,
As to Adam, without Eve, was primeval Eden—
He wanted a bride, she was made—Eve—the real.
I want and create my own Bride—the Ideal.

4.

Each line of the figure is drawn from the mind,
Decked with pure grace and beauty and sweetness combin'd.
Her perfections distract me—I beckon—the Fair—
She consents—'Tis all Fancy—I clasp—the thin air.

18th October, 1844.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION.

Bin ich ein Gott? Mir wird so licht!
Ich ſchau' in dieſen reinen Zügen
Die wirkende Natur vor meiner Seele liegen.
Jetzt erſt erkenn' ich, was der Weiſe ſpricht:
„Die Geiſterwelt iſt nicht verſchloſſen;
„Dein Sinn iſt zu, dein Herz iſt todt!
„Auf, bade, Schüler, unverdroſſen,
"Die ird'ſche Bruſt im Morgenroth!"

Göthe's Fauſt.

Am I a God? I've so much light!
In these clear traces I am viewing
Nature, herself, before my soul, renewing.
And feel that what the Sage has said is right:
"The spirit-world is not debarred;
"Thy sense is shut, thy heart is dead!
"Up, scholar, and let naught retard,
"Thy progress in the morning-red!" J. E.

Some fear and doubt, others revere and believe, too blindly, the phenomena of nature.

Superstition results from excessive fear and doubt, as well as from excessive reverence and faith.

Common sense is too cunning to disclose its superstition.

Philosophy displays the most perfect propriety, distinguished by a freedom from bias and from prejudice, and by a loving disposition for facts—for their development, their accumulation and for their classification in systematic order.

Let the secret, yes, the sacred truths of nature be investigated by this freely-loving, philosophic disposition—the Franklin—the true American disposition; and then even the superhuman power of magic—the black art—may be brought forth into the clear light of every day life, and mystery become matter-of-fact.

But little children should not meddle with edged tools—they are dangerous,—are apt to cut unskillful managers.

Little children should not go too near a fire—it is dangerous, is apt to burn their fingers.

Yet edged tools are good for a mechanic, and a fire is comfortable in cold weather.

Steam is dangerous, and so is lightning; yet Watts brought the one, and Franklin the other harmlessly under his thumb.

Fire, sword steam and lightning, which in their lawless fury have caused the death of thousands, and made millions mourn, are now our most obedient servants.

But we have not yet conquered every power in the material kingdom.

'The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst 'not tell whence it cometh and whither it goeth.'

This aerial substance has through all ages been driving its 'sightless couriers', sometimes gently as the evening zephyr, sometimes wildly as the raging tempest, over the earth.

Ericsson, of New York, has caught these invisible horses. He is now hitching them to his engine, and we are daily expecting to hear of him ploughing the ocean with his airy team.[1]

1. See *Ericsson's Caloric Engine*, quoted from "Hunt's Merchants' Magazine," in the *Western Journal & Civilian*, vol. 8, page 376.

The age of steam is passing away. The age of air is advancing.

Flat-boats were, steam-boats are, air-boats will be our commercial vessels.

Reichenbach, of Vienna, has discovered a new material force. He calls it Odic Force.

Magnets, crystals, sun, moon, stars, heat, friction, light, chemism, digestion, matter in general, and the whole universe are its sources.

Its most sensible manifestations are light and aura.

One of the applications of its laws proves the grave-yard-ghost to be nothing more than illuminated aura, resulting from the decomposition of the buried body and a play of chemical affinities; that this very apparition may be felt as well as seen by morbidly sensitive people; and thus shows that that which some feared, some scouted, some believed and some revered as a spirit, is only an interesting production of nature, which a chemist may re-produce in his laboratory.[2]

We may soon hear more of Reichenbach and the Odic-Power.

The Rev. Dr. Hitchcock, President of Amherst College, has published a work on the *Religion of Geology.*

In his XI. lecture, on '*The future condition and destiny of the earth,*' by an admirable series of biblical, analogical and inductive reasoning, based on the science of matter and of mind, he arrives at the probable conclusion that the spiritual body will be composed of the material substance of *luminiferous ether,* which, with some of its laws, he describes as follows and applies to the spiritual body:

"Now, the question arises, Do we know of any form of matter in the present world which remains the same at all temperatures, and in all circumstances, which no chemical or mechanical agencies can alter?—a substance which remains unchanged in the very heart of the ice around the poles, and in the focus of a volcano; which remains untouched by the most powerful reagents which the chemist can apply, and by the mightiest forces which the mechanician can bring to bear upon it? It seems to me that modern science does render the existence of such a substance probable, though not cognizable by the senses. It is the luminiferous ether, that attenuated medium by which light, and heat, and electricity are transmitted from one part of the universe to another, by undulations of inconceivable velocity. This strange fluid, whose existence and action seems all but demonstrated by the phenomena of light, heat, and electricity, and perhaps, too, by the resistance experienced by Encke's, Biela's, and Halley's comets, must possess the extraordinary characteristic above pointed out. It must exist and act wherever we find light, heat, or electricity; and where do we not find them? They penetrate through what has been called empty space; and, therefore, this ether exists there, propagating its undulations at the astonishing rate of two hundred thousand miles per second. They emanate in constant succession from every intensely heated focus, such as the sun, the volcano, and the chemical furnace; and, therefore, this strange medium is neither dissipated nor affected by the strongest known heat. Both light and heat are transmitted through ice: and, therefore, this ether cannot be congealed. The same is true of glass, and every transparent substance, however dense; and even the most solid metals convey heat and electricity with remarkable facility; and, therefore, this ether exists and acts with equal facility in the most solid masses as in a vacuum. In short, it seems to be independent of chemical or mechanical changes, and to act unobstructed in all possible modifications of matter. And, though too evanescent to be cognizable by the senses, or the most delicate chemical and mechanical tests, it possesses, nevertheless, a most astonishing activity.

Now, I am not going to assert that the spiritual body will be composed of this luminiferous ether. But, since we know not the composition of that body, it is lawful to suppose that such may be its constitution. This is surely possible, and that is all which is essential to my present argument.

Admitting its truth, the following interesting conclusions follow:

In the first place, the spiritual body would be unaffected by all possible changes of temperature. It might exist as well in the midst of fire, or of ice, as in any intermediate temperature. Hence it might pass from one extreme of temperature to another, and be at home in them all; and this is what we might hope for in a future world. Some, indeed, have imagined that the sun will be the future heaven of the righteous, and on this supposition there is no absurdity in the theory. Nor would there be in the hypothesis which should locate heaven in solid ice, or in the centre of the earth.

In the second place, on this supposition, the spiritual body would be unharmed by those chemical and mechanical agencies which matter in no other form can resist.

The question has often arisen, how the glorified body, if material, would be able to escape all sources of injury, so as to be immortal as the soul. In this hypothesis, we see how it is possible; for though the whole globe should change its chemical constitution, though worlds should dash upon worlds, the spiritual body, though present at the very point where the terrible collision took place, would feel no injury; and safe in its immortal habitation, the soul might smile amid "the wreck of matter and the crush of world."

In the third place, on this supposition, the soul might communicate its thoughts and receive a knowledge of events and of other minds, through distances inconceivably great, with the

2. See Reichenbach's Dynamics of Magnetism, page 141, sec's 156, 157 and 158.

speed of lightning. If we suppose the soul, in such a tenement, could transmit its thoughts and desires, and receive impressions, through the luminiferous ether, with only the same velocity as light, it might communicate with other beings upon the sun, at the distance of one hundred million miles, in eight minutes; and such a power we may reasonably expect the soul will hereafter possess, whether derived from this or some other agency. We cannot believe that, in another world, the soul's communication with the rest of the universe will be as limited as in the present state. On this supposition, she need not wander through the universe to learn the events transpiring in other spheres, for the intelligence would be borne on the morning's ray or the lightning's wing.

Finally, on this supposition, the germ of the future spiritual body may, even in this world, be attached to the soul; and it may be this which she will come seeking after on the resurrection morning."[3]

In his XIIth lecture on *The Telegraphic System of the Universe*, President Hitchcock alludes to Reichenbach's researches, and his discovery of the Odic Force as follows:

"The inquiry seems to have been conducted with great fairness and scientific skill, and the author has the confidence of several of the most distinguished scientific men in Europe. If there be no mistake in the results, they promise to explain philosophically many popular superstitions, and also the phenomena of mesmerism, without a resort to superhuman agency, either satanic or angelic. They yield, also, an interesting support to the principle of this lecture."

"By the experiments here referred to by this author, he had endeavored to show, that even the light of the stars exerted an odylic influence upon the human system; that is, certain effects independent altogether of their light; and if there be no mistake in the experiments, they certainly do show this. Such a fact almost realizes the suggestions already made, that beings in other spheres may possess such an exaltation of sensibilities as to be able to learn what is going on in this world, and that it is easy to conceive how our sensorium may be raised to the same exalted pitch."[4]

We refer to these works, as reliable sources of facts and arguments significant of a rapid progress in the science of matter and mind.

In the 5th volume of the "Western Journal," we published an article on *Spirit-Culture*, and one on *Spirit-Power*; and also in the 7th volume a treatise on *Spirit-Glory*.

These pieces had their origin in individual meditation. They were the offspring of the heart—the outgushing of a natural, though intense personal feeling of truth from the fountain of intuitional consciousness.

Now we hear of manifestations of Spirits all around us. We hear that invisible spirits address themselves to the *senses* of the human family. We hear that these spirits speak through wood and stone. That they imbue inert matter with a motive force, that they control the hand, entrance the form, employ the tongue, and even present themselves before the eyes of certain sensitive and sensible human beings.

We further hear that their sign-language through wood and stone is significant of a higher intelligence than that of the whispers or the loud voices of the winds amid rocks and trees; than the ripplings of water, the pealings of thunder, the bellowings of cattle, or the songs of birds. We hear that the hand writes, the form feels, the tongue utters, and the eyes see, certain natural and intelligent though sometimes *infra*-, sometimes *super*-human things. At one time legions purport to come from their infernal abode and by their oaths, lies, nonsense, delusion and fury make one almost exclaim with Ferdinand in the Tempest:

'*Hell is empty,*
And all the devils are here.'

At another time hosts purport to come from their celestial mansions, and write out:

'This is allowed from on high, my child, to bring you to God through Christ.' 'Repent, believe, and be baptized' &c.

Then, again, comes an invisible intelligence who purports to be the guardian spirit of one with whom he holds communion on earth. And he says through the vibrations of wood:

3. See Hitchcock's *Religion of Geology*, page 399 & fol.
4. See Hitchcock's *Religion of Geology*, pages 424 & 425.

'Praise God, my beloved friend, with uprightness of heart, and keep diligently his commandments.' 'Forget not your God, my friend. Acquire knowledge, pursue science—whilst of the earth—preparatory to a home in this more extensive field of science. Science is more elevated in this realm. The principles are the same here, but more clearly elucidated.'

While reading the lecture of President Hitchcock, from which the first quotation above is made, a voice arose from the table, which purported to come from the last mentioned spirit and said:

'That is correct. Read on, I wish to comment.'

While yielding to this request, the lecture was being read, the voice of approval was often heard, and occasionally the voice of dissent was uttered; and when the last paragraph was ended, these words were spoken through the fibers of the wood:

'True. His speculations are correct on the soul.'
'Not despise, commiserate.'

Here is the paragraph on which these last comments were made:

'Let us, then, live continually under the influence of the scenes that await us beyond the grave. They will thus become familiar to us, and we shall appreciate their infinite superiority to the objects that so deeply interest us on earth. We shall be led to look forward even with strong desire, in spite of the repulsive aspect of death, to that state where the soul will be freed from her prison-house of flesh and blood, and can range in untiring freedom through the boundless fields of knowledge and happiness that are in prospect. Then shall we learn to despise the low aims and contracted views of the sensualist, the demagogue, and the worldling. High and noble thoughts and aspirations will lift our souls above the murky atmosphere of this world, and, while yet in the body, we shall begin to breathe the empyreal air of the new heavens, and to gather the fruits of the tree of life in the new earth, where righteousness only shall forever dwell.'[5]

This spirit on being asked:

'Is the sound, which I hear, produced through the instrumentality of the Odic Force?'

answered:

'It is an agent by which we communicate.'

Other spirits have answered this question categorically: 'yes.' Many men of common sense say that the words, instrument and agent are synonymous, though an agent is active, and an instrument passive.

May not the medium be the instrument, and Odic Force the agent by which spirits communicate, as wire is the instrument and electricity the agent by which the human family communicate?

We will not now presume to build theories, or declare laws over this new province of science. We must make greater discoveries, we must have more reliable data. Facts must become more numerous. They must be analyzed and classified with a patient investigation, a cautious induction, a free, loving intelligence.

Let not little children, no, nor big children tamper with spirits; and sensualists might as well yield themselves victims to their brutal passions, as allow themselves to be led away by the imps of Satan.

Let neither the believer nor the sceptic be despised or condemned.

Let Doctors of Medicine, Doctors of Law, and Doctors of Divinity take charge of this subject; and let them find out and test the hallowed action and reaction, if such there be, of mental and of odic force.

Here we would present the following extract of a letter from one of our most distinguished lawyers to his brother; and closing these suggestions, we would say to the slanderers of media, as 'Gamaliel, a doctor of the law,' more than eighteen hundred years ago, said to the Jews—the persecutors of Christians:

'Refrain from these men, and let them alone: for if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought.

But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God!'

JUNIOR EDITOR.

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5. See Hitchcock's *Religion of Geology, pages* 407 & 408.

EXTRACT.

You ask my views on what are called "Spiritual Rappings." When we meet, I will talk to you touching them, and furnish the evidence presented by their varied manifestations. For the present, I suggest that it is always safe, to wait for evidence, before we pronounce judgment. I do not ask you to believe anything I may state concerning this so called mystery; but be assured, my brother, that the spirit of your mother has never made—will never make any manifestation, nor breathe an inculcation *at war* with the teachings of the Bible. Least of all will she deride the special providence of God, in human affairs. If she has revisited earth to commune with her children, it was but to turn them from the world to God. Build up no theories, my brother; wait for facts, you have ample time to be patient. It is a common, but great error of the mind to establish some inflexible theory—to resist all facts which seem to conflict with it, and by the process of bending, or breaking, or both, to coerce a harmony with previous speculation. This error so hurtful to truth, springs from the pride of intellect—a quality of mind, essential to its usefulness—but like all human qualities, capable of perversion. I venture to declare [in spite of your declaration to the contrary], that you will find before you shall occupy any *one* of them, that our "Father's house" contains not only "many mansions," but that there is, also, some difference *in* their furnishing. You will, I think, discover that discriminations, from the necessity of the case, must arise, from the relative exaltations of spirits—from their greater or lesser capacity for holiness and spiritual attainment: — that these distinctions spring from the nature of moral government, and are indeed inseparable from it. A priori, independent of authority, it is reasonable to believe, that the *capacity of souls* may vary as widely, as intellect from intellect. Every analogy in nature tends to this conclusion, and I know of nothing in the revelation of God to man, against it.

Without being able in one, or in many letters to furnish you the evidence to support them, I have been convinced of the truth of the following propositions:

1. That disembodied spirits have always visited this earth as ministering agents of good and evil:
2. That man will ever be, while he remains on earth, subject to the antagonism of these two principles:
3. That whereas heretofore these agents operated on us, without any clear consciousness on our part of the operation; they now are, in the providence of God, endued with the power to make themselves manifest to us:
4. That they are true to their respective missions—subject to this exception, that sometimes a lost spirit will give warning of its fate, and exhortation to avoid it:
5. That man is left to distinguish between good and evil spirits, just as between all *other* evil and good;
6. That he must judge them by their inculcations—the revelation of God's word being the standard and rule of judgment;
7. That there is no real difficulty in making this discrimination—first because the great object of attack, of evil spirits, is the Bible, the authority of which they deny in whole, or in part; while good spirits invariably enforce the infinite authority, and binding obligation of the volume—and secondly because there are other collateral tests quite decisive, among which is the *mode* of the manifestation;
8. That a new theology, such as is set forth in the works of Andrew Jackson Davis, is the product of lost spirits, of great intellectual power—who endeavored while they lived on earth to destroy the Bible, and who now are, with greater power, seeking to undermine it, by a splendid atheism, disguised under the mask of the theory of progression and development;
9. That the Harmonia of Davis is dictated by them—he being first placed by them in a superior or magnetic state—and presents the most fascinating system of scientific infidelity, ever developed on earth;
10. *That evil spirits and good spirits are limited in knowledge, and ignorant of many things which relate to the past, the present and the future; with this marked difference, that while all good spirits recognise and respect the boundaries of their knowledge, bad spirits are prone to assert, universal prescience—detailing recklessly what they do not know—and perverting what they do;*
11. That truth or falsehood in the manifestations is no test of their *spirituality*, though it is a decisive test of their character—or in other words, a spirit may

speak to you nothing but falsehood, and yet convince you, it is a spirit that speaks;

The evidence embracing and establishing the foregoing, is moral, intellectual, spiritual and physical, almost indefinitely varied in each department—presenting a body of proof so strong [in my case], that no man claiming to be rational, can disbelieve it, unless he is prepared to overturn the basis of all human faith. The testimony is external and internal, appealing to our eyes and ears, and touch—to memory and to consciousness.

12. That all lost spirits do not suffer the same amount of punishment; nor do all the redeemed enjoy the same amount of happiness;

13. That there are seven spheres of happiness, and seven spheres of misery, but while there is progress from a lower to a higher sphere of happiness, the destiny of a lost soul is unchangeable even in degree.

The last two propositions rest upon the authority of many spiritual communications, and especially upon those made to me by our mother, and two of our brothers, who are in the seventh or highest sphere of happiness, by our sister, who is in the sixth sphere, and by our brother H—, who is in the first or mildest sphere of punishment.

The spirit of this last mentioned unfortunate brother visits me frequently, and his communications, pregnant with internal evidence of his identity, have a deep but melancholy interest in them. That you may form some idea of their general nature and import, I give you his first words:

'Uriel, never be satisfied with anything short of heaven.'

I said in reply speaking truly what I thought and felt: 'My brother, you do not know how much pleasure it afforded us to learn as we did last night, that you were happy.' He rejoined: 'I do not wish you to come where I am.' 'Are you not happy, my brother?' I added. 'The deepest punishment is not mine,' was his answer. And then without any question being put, he continued in these words: 'O! that I had your chance, my dear brother, I would escape the damnation of hell, but it is too late—too late—too late!'

He then indited a letter to his only child, in Virginia, in deeply impressive phrase, and requested me to forward it to her.

I should swell this letter to a volume, if I attempted to furnish the evidence of the manifestations, made to me, for three months. Nor is it necessary that I should do so. Every man will, I am persuaded, decide for himself, by what he witnesses, how much importance is due to such manifestations. I know my own mind is so constituted, that I could not repose upon any hearsay—however credible; and I therefore cannot quarrel with such skepticism in others. I asked H.: 'If he found fault with God for his destiny?' His answer was in these words: 'No—he gave me ample time, I refused—I heeded not admonitions, I rejected those of our dear mother—it is right that I suffer—God is just—I rejected a Savior who died for me, till it was too late.'

I asked him, if he could hold communion with the spirit of his mother and sister and brothers? His reply was: 'I cannot go to them, or they cannot come to me.'

I endeavored to ascertain the nature of his punishment, and I give you all that he has yet disclosed on that subject. It is in these words: 'No mortal can conceive of it—part of my punishment is absence from God—I have an acute sensibility to pain—it is more than the pangs of conscience—more than remorse—I have hard tasks to perform—I bear not only my own sins, but I witness the anguish of others more miserable than myself—the truth which I now tell you, will bring me punishment.'

I asked him, if he entertained *no hope* that God in his mercy, in consideration of his true and faithful testimony, and warning to others to flee the wrath to come, *might make his an exceptional case*, and ultimately modify his destiny?—His answer was in these words: 'None; he gave me time, light, admonition, and a Savior to die for me—I rejected all; there is no hope.'

The spirit of our father has not yet communicated with me. I expressed my surprise at this. 'It is not strange,' said the spirit of our mother, 'he cannot yet come to you, my son.' His position, as we learn from her, and H..... [lost as the latter is] is in the sixth sphere of happiness.

On last night the following singular communication was made by our unhappy brother. After speaking of the state of mind, of a visitor of mine, as to belief in these manifestations, of me, he said: 'Uriel has no doubt, because he knows that he has internal evidence of the fact, and when our dear father shall commu-

nicate to him [as he soon will do] a fact of which he is now ignorant, he will then have conclusive evidence both of my father's identity and my own.'

I have not the remotest idea of what is meant by these words; but if anything shall transpire to give them application, I will preserve the record of it, and send it to you.

Among the truths enforced by these spirits, who in this life were very dear to us, are the following;

1. The creation of the world by God.
2. The Bible origin of man [on this planet] from a single pair.
3. The Trinity—Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
4. The death, resurrection, ascension and mediation of Christ.
5. The eternal perdition of a soul impenitent.
6. Faith in Christ and trust in him, the only ground of salvation.
7. The importance of baptism, irrespective of *mode*, but its omission excusable under proper circumstances.
8. The final extinction of the principle of evil, and the total exemption of the redeemed from its operation.

According to their uniform testimony, there is no interval of time between what we call *death*, and the *destiny* of the spirit, freed from the body. It sees whither it is going even before it leaves its casement. There is *no period of time* in the process of death, when the spirit is *unconscious* of what is going on around it. It sees its corpse, its grave, its funeral, and all attendant circumstances. Our brother J—n gave an interesting and truly faithful account of his own death, embracing events which transpired after you and I supposed the time of consciousness on his part was over.

The *body* of Christ [they say] remained in the tomb three days, but his spirit was not there. That *body* is now in heaven, to remain there as long as one sinner is left on earth. 'At the crucifixion,' to quote their precise language, 'the spirit of Christ, which was God, suffered, and so did the Father.' 'The Father grieves also, whenever one of his children commits sin.'

[What a contrast, my dear brother, does this last idea present—to the *fine rhetoric* of the celebrated Dr. Knott—'*God* is equally *unmindful* of the great wave of national turmoil, as of the little ripple of individual calamity.']

'Every planet [they teach] is inhabited—inhabited by *human* beings [the moon with her supposed volcanic structure and missing atmosphere forms no exception], and every inhabitant of the most remote orb involved personally in the tragedy on calvary!' This last idea is yet by me incomprehensible. I cannot conceive how they can be involved in the *atonement*; because I do not know how to connect them with the *fall*; unless, indeed, the same unhappy career of sin has been run by man on every orb. In that case, the crucifixion of a God might answer for an universe of sin, but even this hypothesis is full of difficulties.

What is a spirit?—has been answered me by good spirits and evil, and all the same way.

'We are an organization of essence; a substance, as all *organizations* must be; we have form and features, like those we wore on earth: 'you would know me instantly, brother U.,' said our brother J—n to me, 'if I should now make myself palpable to your vision' We move with great celerity from place to place. It is never necessary, but we could penetrate opaque bodies. We neither eat, nor drink, nor sleep: we live by the fiat of the Almighty. He has spoken our eternity, as he spoke light into being. The principle of decay is unknown to the spiritual organization, and hence no nutrition or rest is necessary to its vitality. We are not subject to the action of the elements—lightning, tempest, rain, hail, snow, heat, cold, are all inoperative on us.'

'Our functions and offices [say the good spirits] are many and various. We are made familiar with higher and more glorious adaptations, than belong to earth and mortals. One of our delights is melody—vocal melody.—'The harps of gold of the Bible,' said Johnson, 'is a figure of speech, my brother.'—'There is no instrumental music in heaven—but we have exalted vocal harmony; and to this end our faculties and organs of sound are improved, enlarged and refined. Yet if I now sang, you would be reminded of my voice.'

'Heaven is a *condition or state of being*, and *also* a *locality:* wherever a good spirit is, is heaven; wherever a bad spirit is, there is hell. But it is also true that there is an actual city of God, and an actual locality of punishment.

'There is no music in hell,' is affirmed by those who profess to speak with knowledge.

Thus, my dear brother, much against my intention when I sat down to write, I have given you some of the results of an investigation, embracing a period of four months, since I began it. Starting in profound skepticism, applying carefully every test of truth known to me, my unbelief has yielded to conviction quite as profound. I no more doubt the fact, that I have communicated often with the spirits of our departed mother and brothers—than I doubt that you are my brother, or that the sun rose to-day. You will judge, how far my views are calculated to elevate, or depress the soul of man. For myself, freely granting to all men the unquestioned right of opinion and remark, on a matter so mysterious, I do not fail to thank God, that he has made me familiar with such manifestations, as I have witnessed. I see in them only wonderful evidence of his power and goodness, vouchsafed to me by more than ordinary manifestations. As far as I am conscious of their operation, they furnished me the first *conclusive evidence* I ever had of the immortality of the soul. On that, as a first principle, I sought the Bible, resolved that, if there was a Savior of souls, I would find him; and I trust, I did not search in vain. And now I feel that death has achieved no triumph. I cannot realize the idea of death in connection with the departed, so dear to us. They not only live, but seem come back to me.

It is but mental trifling to attempt to account on any known principles of human science, for what I have heard and felt and seen. It is beyond all the conjectured magic of "electricity"—outside of all the channels of supposed or actual "mesmeric currents"—far out of the reach of the fabled or real power of the human will over inert or animated matter; or the assumed reflection of one's own mind, seen like our image in a glass.

Electricity is not *thought*—the will, if it could, *would not* accomplish what is oft so painful to the wish; and if the mind had power to reflect itself, as by a mirror, it would never be found reflecting that of which it has neither knowledge nor consciousness: least of all would it reflect painfully the opposite of what it is. I defy the strongest will of man, to make one single 'rap'—[the first step in these phenomena]—to say nothing of the absolute impossibility of maintaining a conversation with me—I propounding questions by inaudible and unwritten thought; he answering by conventional signs of ideas, made by vibrations or 'raps.'

I have never been able to ascertain *how* the vibrations or raps are made. The only explanation furnished by the spirits, to me, being that *two* powers are invoked, *one* inherent in the organization of the spirit, for which there is no mortal nomenclature; the *other* a power which belongs to the human frame, called the odic force. The nature of this latter power has been exemplified and illustrated by Reichenbach, in a work almost exclusively devoted to that object. His researches and opinions have not, I believe, as yet received the assent of all physiologists.

Good men and pious christians there are who fear the influence of these phenomena on their religion. Many are disposed to ascribe them to evil spirits—no man who has even slightly *investigated* the subject, will pretend to account for them on the ground of fraud or collusion. Now it is unquestionably true, that very many of these communications are made by very wicked beings. It is also true that most *evil* spirits are engaged in active warfare against the Bible—and are industriously at work to build up a system of religion, in harmony with the natural depravity of the human heart; but if evil be an active principle, good is active also, and in the long run will master its great adversary.

I cannot share in the apprehension that the Bible is put in peril, by any one, or by all of the agencies of the Prince of Evil. On this new field of warfare [if indeed it be *new* in any respect save that we *now see the conflict*], he will I apprehend, be routed and overthrown, as on every other theatre of action. The principle involved in this struggle, presents no novelty in the history of man. He has always been subject to the antagonism of two principles. He has always had the power to choose between them, being responsible for his choice. He has it now, and the responsibility also. He has also the same means he ever had of discriminating between them. It is quite as easy for him, to distinguish between a good and evil *spirit*, as between a good and bad *man*, or a good and bad *book*.

In truth, in so far as the Bible is concerned, in the matter of construction, there is less difficulty presented by the spirits, than by mortals. For good spirits affirm the infinite authority, and by consequence, the infinite obligation of the Book as

a revelation of God—while in the main, evil spirits deny both. The issue they make is a broad one—the line between them is easily drawn—it is the Bible or nothing. But with mortals controversy, occupying narrower ground, *may* give rise to serious error: a vital truth *may* be lost sight of in the conflict of constructions.

I am satisfied that, unless you take the ground assumed by the Pharisees against Christ, you will not be swift to believe that the spirits who gave the inculcations I have recorded, are evil—unless indeed the Devil has changed his policy, and is resolved to prevent all further increase of his subjects, by fitting mortals for another and higher destination.

So you see what you have brought upon yourself by an unfortunate question, and a yet more unfortunate criticism! But brother mine—however we may differ about politics or "spiritual rappings," we do not differ as to the God whom we love and serve, nor in our aspirations to meet the redeemed of his kingdom. Invoking upon you and yours his choicest benedictions, I am as ever, Your Brother * * * * * * *

August 30th, 1852.

THE PLAINS,

Being a Collection of Veracious Memoranda, taken during the Expedition of Exploration in the year 1845, from the Western Settlements of Missouri to the Mexican Border, and from Bent's Fort on the Arkansas to Fort Gibson, via South Fork of Canadian—North Mexico and North Western Texas.

By FRANCOIS DES MONTAIGNES, of St. Louis.

THE PLAINS—CHAPTER ONE.

Which kills two birds with one stone, as it introduces the youth Francois des Montaignes to some fellow-voyagers, and the steamer Henry Bry to Kanzas on the Missouri River.

Be it known to all good readers, that during the third, fourth and fifth days of June, 1845, the good steamer, Henry Bry, Chouteau master, had been threatening and promising to start for Missouri river every hour, yet the sixth came, and she had but just left the port of St. Louis. On this craft, there were some twenty odd souls who, from their independent swagger and jovial carriage, appeared to belong to some party about to start for Oregon or California. They were mostly young Americans, healthy and full of fun and elasticity, yet, there were some four or five others aboard the vessel, who preserved a more serious exterior, and now and then gave utterance to some pithy ejaculation of contempt at the sayings and doings of the set of greenhorns, who they felt confident of being their inferiors in the coming profession of mountain traveling. They spoke that mongrel language, so extensively in use among the Creoles of the West, and which although a piebald patois of the French, is much better known by the appellation of Canadian. These men were Canadian men, experienced in the manner and modes of exploring wild mountainous regions, of threading desert plains, of killing the wild beasts of these regions, of trading with and of conciliating the barbarous inhabitants thereof, of packing animals—of every thing, in fact, which is necessary to be done during an expedition among wild and savage Indians and through untrodden regions. Several had already been engaged in previous trips of the kind, whilst every one of them had been engaged, at least a year or two, at some trading post of the American Fur Company. Therefore, when such men as these, who, experienced in every thing of the kind, were well aware of what was yet to come, cast a dubious and almost sneering look at the too playful and sanguine group of verdant ones on board, it should have tamed their fun toute-de-suite, and ought, by all means, to have terrified some of the rascals into seriousness. But they, sorry devils as they were, would not so much as cast a glance at the vieux voyageurs, much less keep their company. To speak plainly, the

present cargo of the Henry Bry was by no means a choir of Psalm-singers, nor quakers. They ate, drank, talked, sang, played cards and smoked cigars when they pleased and as much as they pleased. When the boat stopped at a wood yard, every one of them must needs go ashore and shoot at a spot. When they had no balls, they must go ashore anyhow to jump and run foot races; and when they did not feel in humor of jumping or racing, they must go ashore, by all means, for the sake only of being ashore. This conduct on the part of the American engagés might, perhaps, have pleased the captain, who was on board with us, but no doubt, he frequently shook his head and muttered to himself: "These chaps are green and nimble enough now, but by the time they are a month's travel on the prairie, I'll lay a wager, there be not much desire to run foot races."

There were also on board the Henry Bry, besides the captain and hands, several officers, lieutenants of the Army, gay young fellows, who run about to accompany the expedition apparently more for the purpose of killing dull time than any thing else.

The voyage from St. Louis to Kanzas was soon made, for the days slipped by most pleasantly to all hands, occupied in the manner I have stated, in doing everything but anything.

Finally, after passing numerous towns and pseudo-cities in embryo, which spotted the banks of the Missouri on each side, on the morning of the ninth, being Monday, the little port of Kansas, the Westport landing came in sight, and now all was hurry and confusion.

Each man grasped his possible sack, which by the way is a provincial name for clothes sack, in one hand, and his blankets and rifle in the other, and stood ready to leap ashore.

As the boat touched the shore, there ensued no tremendous rush of draymen, friends, relations and porters, such as welcome the arrival of a steamer in some great port; but there did ensue a rush of Americans, Canadians, officers, &c., to land.

It was raining in one of those dull moods in which a hazy morning in Missouri is so frequently opened, and by the time we had carried our guns and baggage to a place of security, the wharf or landing was a complete mudhole. The horses had been taken out some three or four miles below us, and we next proceeded to take forth the barrels of flour, of sugar, of coffee, the boxes of rice, or this and that, the bales of one thing and another, the bundles of iron pickets, the long and short boxes of rifles and of instruments of this and that, and lastly several hogsheads of bacon.

I wish not to weary the reader with too many trifling particulars and shall therefore omit many things which might be included in what is denominated a journal. Those, however, which I shall omit, have no relation with the main important subject, and I shall not consider anything as lost by their omission.

Suffice it, therefore, to say, that we and our share of the boat's cargo were unshipped. The boat proceeded on her way up the river, and we endeavored to make ourselves as comfortable as circumstances would permit, by eating a hearty breakfast, taking a hearty dram and strutting along the little landing.

Waggons arrived from Westport about eleven o'clock, to transport baggage and plunder to the camp which some said was near Westport. But as we were all green and did not happen to know very well the situation of Westport and consequently of the camp either—the conclusion was that none of us knew or could be expected to know where the camp was.

However, as soon as the wagons were laden, we started out, one and all, in parties of ten and six for the first camp near Westport.

The first group was composed of ten or twelve, whereof one among the rest was Francois des Montaignes, who with his rifle on his shoulder, trudged along ahead of his companions with much sprightliness and gaieté du coeur. Mile after mile was passed, the day was fast drawing to a close, and the voyagers now hoped soon to see the camp. Yet on they went, the road had no end, and they were fast becoming tired. A wagon passed at a swift pace, a few words passed, and when we arrived at Westport, a wagon stood waiting at the tavern door to transport us to Boone's Fork, six miles farther.

Finally, an hour by sun we reached the edge of that great plain or prairie which stretches out far and wide from the western boundary of Missouri to

the foot of the Stony or Rocky Mountains, and in its extent from north to south it has no confines. The rolls of the prairie before seemed heaved into beautifully rounding waves or surges by some great power, and when we reached the pinnacle of a lofty eminence and beheld the American camp on the prairie below us, it seemed like some distant fleet of vessels at anchor on a heaving sea.

Indeed, we were all in an admirable condition to speculate on matters and things, for at the tavern of Westport all hands made a simultaneous rush at the bar, and the whole crew, one and all, by the time we left the town, which we did with extraordinary eclat—yelling and shouting—were in a most pitiable condition of gloriousness and well adapted in every way to appreciate the beauty of landscapes and to poetize thereon.

"Old Dan Tucker," that well patronized air, and "Lucy Neal" were sung with rapture; and with a strain of most mournful music, proceeding from our throats in the shape of some five or six different songs at once, our little wagon whirled into the camp.

Our Captain was already there; a couple of old and temporary tents were up, and whilst several large rawboned fellows were cooking a meal, the whole place was a crowd of hangers-on or spectators who, as was supposed, had been lying in wait there for a week or more, in order to make arrangements with Captain Fremont to accompany his expedition.

The herds of mules and horses which belonged to the expedition, were feeding in the distance, whilst every now and then a figure on horseback would flit across the darkening horizon, marking the presence of the horse guards.

The drove of animals were driven up to the camp at dark, and confined in an enclosure made by felling trees in such a manner as by their fall to form a circle, called in Spanish a "caral." Such was the appearance of the camp when our advanced guard took possession of it.

The first night of our sojourn at this camp on the prairie was rather inauspicious, for the clouds grew black as ebony, and the thunder rolled overhead in threatening murmurs. About eleven o'clock at night the heavy rain drops began to descend; they increased to astonishing violence, and about twelve, the storm was at its height.

The heavy tent cloths flapped about like thread under the violent power of the wind; the water ran down from the hills in streams, passing through the blankets, robes, baggage, &c., which impeded its progress. The tents afforded no security against the water, though they warded off the descending rain and the poor voyagers who lay crouched like a flock of partridges beneath them, felt their bed cloths and their apparel become wet and heavy. They, however, were not to be pitied when we say that many, unable to find a place within the tents, had been compelled to spread their blankets in the open air and in the empty uncovered wagons. These were of course forced to bear patiently the pitiless pelting of the storm, and to be kept awake by the continual glare of the sheet of lightning which lighted up the prairie equal to a noon-day sun. Amongst this latter class was the unfortunate Francois. He lay crouched in the corner of an uncovered wagon; his gun lay by him and his baggage was strewed around. Another individual there was at the other end of the wagon, but he—fortunate fellow—slept and snored away in the rain as if on a bed of warm feathers. He, no doubt, was used to such fare, and had been in a thousand storms like this, for he was a Canadian voyageur. Some were kept on foot, and one poor fellow stalking about in the mud and rain without shoes and asking in a pitiful voice for information, concerning the whereabouts of his hat which the wind no doubt had borne away, looked not unlike some unfortunate ghost among the ruins of Babylon or Colma, on the hill of storms.

Thus passed the first night at Boone's Fork.

"It is night. I am alone, forlorn on the hill of storms. The wind is heard on the mountain. The torrent pours down the rock. No hut receives me from the rain; forlorn on the hill of winds!"

THE SONGS OF SELMA.

From the German of Krummacher.

SELECT PARABLES.

THE APPLE.

There was a rich man at the court of king Herod, who was his high chamberlain, and he was clothed in purple and fine linen, and every day lived lordly and in pleasure. A friend of his youth, from a distant land, came there to see him. He had not seen him for many years. And the chamberlain, to honor him, prepared a great banquet, and invited all his friends. On the table were sumptuous viands in gold and silver, and many costly vessels with oil and wine of every kind. And the rich man sat at the head of the table, and on his right hand sat his friend who had come from distant lands. And they ate and drank, and were satisfied.—

Then spoke the man from distant lands to the chamberlain of king Herod: 'Such splendor and magnificence as I find in this house, I never beheld in the length and breadth of my land!' And he extolled all the splendor, and boasted that he was the happiest of all men on earth.

But the rich man, the king's chamberlain, took an apple from a golden vessel. The apple was large and beautiful, and on the outside ruddy as purple. And he took the apple, and said: 'Behold, this apple was resting on gold, and its appearance is very beautiful.' And he gave it to the stranger and friend of his youth. The stranger cut the apple, and, lo, in its heart there was a worm!

The stranger looked side-wise toward, then away from the chamberlain—but the High Chamberlain cast down his eyes and sighed.—

THE JEWEL.

A rough jewel was lying in the dust concealed for years among many common worthless stones. Various people walked over it, or trod it under foot, and never picked it up. It also concealed its brilliancy before the eyes of travellers. For its beauty did not disclose itself, but shone in simplicity.

A friend of nature, at last, came in the borders. He sought after flowers and insects, and found the jewel. Smiling he gazed at the stone, and said: 'Thou art yet ever kind toward thy adorer, lovely mother nature! finds he not, what he with love and stirring sense of truth seeks after, yet finds he surely something, which also was well worthy of the search.'

He took the stone home with him. But, said he, thou rough child of nature—how shall I now begin to polish thee? How shall I take off the gross cover which conceals thy brilliancy?— —Yet how can what is noble, otherwise than by the noble, become properly fashioned?—He polished the diamond with the dust of diamonds. Incomparably beamed its ray, and its fame filled the land.

Then the wise friend of nature took the precious stone, and brought it to the good, beloved ruler of the country, and spoke: 'I found this finest production of nature; I polished it to its lustre; I consecrate it to the First of the land, that the jewel may adorn his crown, for it is considered the brightest amount of a princely crown.'—

But the prince asked: 'What is the brightest ornament of a princely throne?' —The wise man answered: 'What the jewel is to his crown, a circle of the noblest men is to his throne, which it surrounds, and to the prince whom it honors.

INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES &c. OF THE SOUTHERN AND WESTERN STATES.
By J. D. B. De Bow.

We would call particular attention to the advertisement of this work. Mr. De Bow has rendered valuable service to the interests of the South and West. May he be amply rewarded.

GUIDE TO THE SCENERIES OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY,

With an engraving of seven scenes and a MAP drawn from nature by *Egleffstein & Zwanziger*, Topographical Engineers on stone by *E. & C. Robyn*. The book is small, containing only 8 pages; the scenes and map in general are interesting, and must be valuable to the owners of real estate represented. The map embraces 30 square miles, and includes Manchester and the Sulphur Springs on the Muramac. May we not hope for a geological survey and topographical map of the whole county?

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.

Stationery.

F. SCHUSTER & CO.—Stock of German, English, French, &c. Books, Engravings, Blank Books, Music Paper and Stationery, No. 38 Walnut street, corner of Second street, St. Louis, Mo.
August, 1851.

Trunks.

M. PENDZINSKI, Premium Trunk Maker. Constantly on hand, at wholesale and retail, and made to order at the shortest notice, Hard Leather Trunks, Solid Leather Steel Spring Trunks, Valises, Carpet Bags, Packing Trunks, Ladies' Dress Boxes, &c.

Trunks repaired in the best manner. Call and examine for yourselves before buying elsewhere, as I am determined to sell as low as any house in the trade, at all risks, No. 42 North Second street [Westside.] between Chestnut and Pine streets, May, 1851.

A. B. LATHROP. J. W. MITCHELL.
L. G. JEGFERS.
A. B. LATHROP & Co.

MANUFACTURERS and wholesale and retail dealers in TRUNKS, Valises, Carpet Bags, Umbrellas, Ladies' Satchels, Dress and Bonnet Boxes, &c.

☞Constantly on hand at *Eastern Prices* (for CASH,) the largest assortment of Packing Trunks, Canvas or Leather, suitable for packing Prints, Clothing or Fancy Articles, Boots and Shoes, &c. Also—Manufacturers of all kinds of Packing Boxes for the city trade. Depot and Office No. 60 Third street, at the "Trunk Emporium" opposite Old Theatre, St. Louis, Mo. April, 1851.

Saddlery.

HEWITT & STEINACKER, Saddle, Harness and Trunk Manufacturers, wholesale and retail, No. 67 Fourth street, corner of Pine, opposite the Planters House, St. Louis.

Mathematical Instruments.

J. BLATTNER, Mathematical and Surgical Instrument maker, Dealer in Guns, Pistols and Sporting Materials, No. 58 North Second street, between Pine and Olive, St. Louis, Mo., manufactures, and has always on hand: Surveyor's Compasses, Levelling Instruments, Theodolite Pocket Compasses, Spy-glasses, Barometers, Thermometers, Drawing Instruments, Spectacles, Ivory and Gunter's Scales and Protractors, Hour and Half Hour Glasses, Microscopes and Magnifying Glasses, Hydrometers of silver and glass, hydrometers for acids and salts, Magic Lanterns, Electrical Machines, &c., also, Surgical and Dental Instruments; Pocket, Dissecting, Cupping and self-injecting cases; Taylor's Shears, all sizes; Syringes, large and small, Scarificators, Lancets; Forceps; Turnkeys; large Scales and Weights for Druggists; Prescription Scales on Stands; Revolvers, Guns, Pistols, Powder Flaks, Game Bags, &c. ☞All the above Instruments repaired at short notice in the best Banner.

Hardware.

WILSON & BROTHERS, Wholesale Dealers in Hardware, corner of Main and Olive streets, St. Louis, Mo.

P. WONDERLY, Manufacturer of Copper, Tin and Sheet Iron Work—such as Copper Pipes for Steamboats and Distilleries, Soda Fountains, Copper ettles, Well and Cistern Pumps, and every other article in his line of business, No. 233 Main street, South-east corner of Cherry, St. Louis, Mo. He also manufactures and keeps constantly on hand, Premium Steamboat Cooking Stoves. Tinware always on hand, wholesale and retail.

Furniture.

WM. M. HARLOW, proprietor of the St. Louis Furniture Store, manufactures and keeps constantly on hand every variety of household furniture, matresses, window blinds, willow ware, &c.

Also, manufactures to order every article in his line, with despatch. Orders from abroad promptly attended to, and goods carefully packed. All goods warranted as recommended.

New Warehouse, No. 88 Second street, between Olive and Locust streets, St. Louis, Mo.

Paper Hangings.

JOHN S. WATSON, (late of Wilgus & Watson) No. 54 40' Pine street, between Second and Third, next door above the old stand of Wilgus & Watson, house, steamboat, sign and ornamental painter, grainer, glazier, whitener and paper hanger; also, dealer in all the latest styles of French and American paper hangings. He keeps constantly on hand and ready for sale mixed paints of all colors, oils, varnishes, Japan, turpentine, white lead, putty, and a large and superior assortment of French and American window glass, which will be cut to any size to suit customers.

Particular attention paid to estimating on houses or steamboats. November.

WOLF & ENGERT, importers and dealers in Paper Hangings, Colors and Fancy Papers, No. 49 South Second street, between Elm and Myrtle, St. Louis, Mo. Constantly on hand, all kinds of oil and water colors, paper-hangings, chimney screens, tester pieces, window shades, marble, marroquin, Gold and Silver paper, painters' and Dutch gold bronze, lead pencils, paint boxes, paint brushes, drawing paper, &c. April, 1850.

Records.

PERSONS wishing to obtain transcripts of records in New Madrid county, can procure them without delay by addressing the undersigned. And to avoid the inconvenience of remitting small sums, the records will be directed to George Pegrim & Co., St. Louis, who will deliver the same upon the payment of the fees. WM. MOSELEY,
Recorder of New Madrid Co., Mo.
March, 1851.

Fruit Trees.

FRUIT TREES AND SHRUBBERY, for sale by the undersigned, at their fruit farm and nursery. This establishment is located seven miles South of St. Louis, Mo. There are Omnibus Coaches running daily from the City within one half mile of the establishment. The Nursery and Gardens are open at all times (Sundays excepted) for the reception of visitors. Horticulturists and amateurs are respectfully invited to visit the establishment and examine for themselves. In directing the attention of the public to their nursery, they would remark that one of the firm, (Mr. James Sigerson,) has been engaged in the above business for the last twenty-five years; during that time he has tested many of the varieties now growing. This, with the assurance on their part of an intention to increase the number of their trees, as well as to add to their assortment from year to year, furnishes a strong guarantee to persons wishing to make choice selections of fruit, that they can always be supplied. Their prices for trees will be as reasonable as at any similar establishment East or West, and when desired, trees will be delivered free of charge in the city or on steamboats; packed in good order for their destination.

☞ All letters addressed to John Sigerson, St. Louis, or to James Sigerson, Carondelet, will meet with prompt attention.

JOHN SIGERSON & BROTHERS.

Commissions.

H. W. LEFFINGWELL, Notary Public — R. S. ELLIOTT, Com'r of Deeds.

LEFFINGWELL & ELLIOT, Real Estate Dealers, Auctioneers and Conveyancers. No. 123 Chestnut street, St. Louis, Mo. Real Estate sold on commission, at private sale, or auction. Also, deeds of all kinds written, and acknowledgments taken. Maps of the city and additions to be seen at the office, and information given free of charge. Surveying done promptly and correctly.

GENERAL AGENCY at Dubuque, Iowa, for public lands, real estate, military land warrants, payment of taxes, investigation of titles, amicable collection of debts, and all other business within the legitimate sphere of an Agent's duties, by

CHARLES CORKERY,

Notary Public and Commissioner of Deeds and Depositions for all the North-western States, Missouri included. October 20-1.

Foundry.

ROLIN CLARK, JOHN RENFREW. — PHILANDER BRALEY, ALEXANDER CROSIER.

EAGLE FOUNDRY AND ENGINE SHOP, North-west corner of Main and Biddle streets. Manufacturers of all kinds of machinery, boilers and sheet iron work, portable circular saw mills always on hand, all orders executed with fidelity and despatch.

Horse Shoeing.

JOHN MULLERY, Premium Horse hoer in the alley, opposite the Post Office, will as usual pay particular attention to the various diseases affecting the feet of horses, and will guarantee to give general satisfaction in either of the above departments.

Washington Steam Sash Factory.

B. PHILIBERT,

WASHINGTON Avenue and 14th street, south side St. Louis, Mo., makes Doors, Sash and Blinds Also, Door and Window Frames. Terms moderat N. B.—Slitting and Planing done here.

Lithographic Establishment.

SCHAEFF & BRO., No. 71 Market street, St. Louis, Mo., are prepared to execute anything in the line of lithography; and especially, as they are in possession of the largest sized lithographic presses and stones, they are able to fill orders of the largest dimensions. They take and lithograph portraits and likenesses from daguerrotypes, engrave or lithograph show bill cards, business and visiting cards, diplomas, music, manifests, labels, facsimiles, bank notes, bank bills, bank checks, bill heads, drafts, bills of lading, maps, town plats, &c.

☞ They particularly beg leave to request the special notice of the public to their crayon drawings and colored lithographs, in as much as this is the only establishment in the West, where this improved style of lithographing is practiced.

Boots & Shoes.

JOHN HOW. — WM. CLAFLIN. ROBT. COOK. — JNO. A. ALLEN.

HOW, CLAFLIN & COOK, dealers in boots and shoes, hides, leather, shoemakers' findings, Tanners' oil, Curriers' tools, &c., 412 Main street, (opposite the Bank,) St. Louis, Mo. April, 1851.

Safes.

M'MURRAY & DORMAN, Iron Railing Manufactory, n. s. of Chesn. bet. 9. & 10. streets, continue to manufacture at the above establishment, all kinds of plain and ornamental iron railing, balconies, bank and jail doors book safes, fire-vaults, iron window shutters iron awnings, lightning rods, bedsteads, gratings, and in fact, any thing which can be formed of iron.

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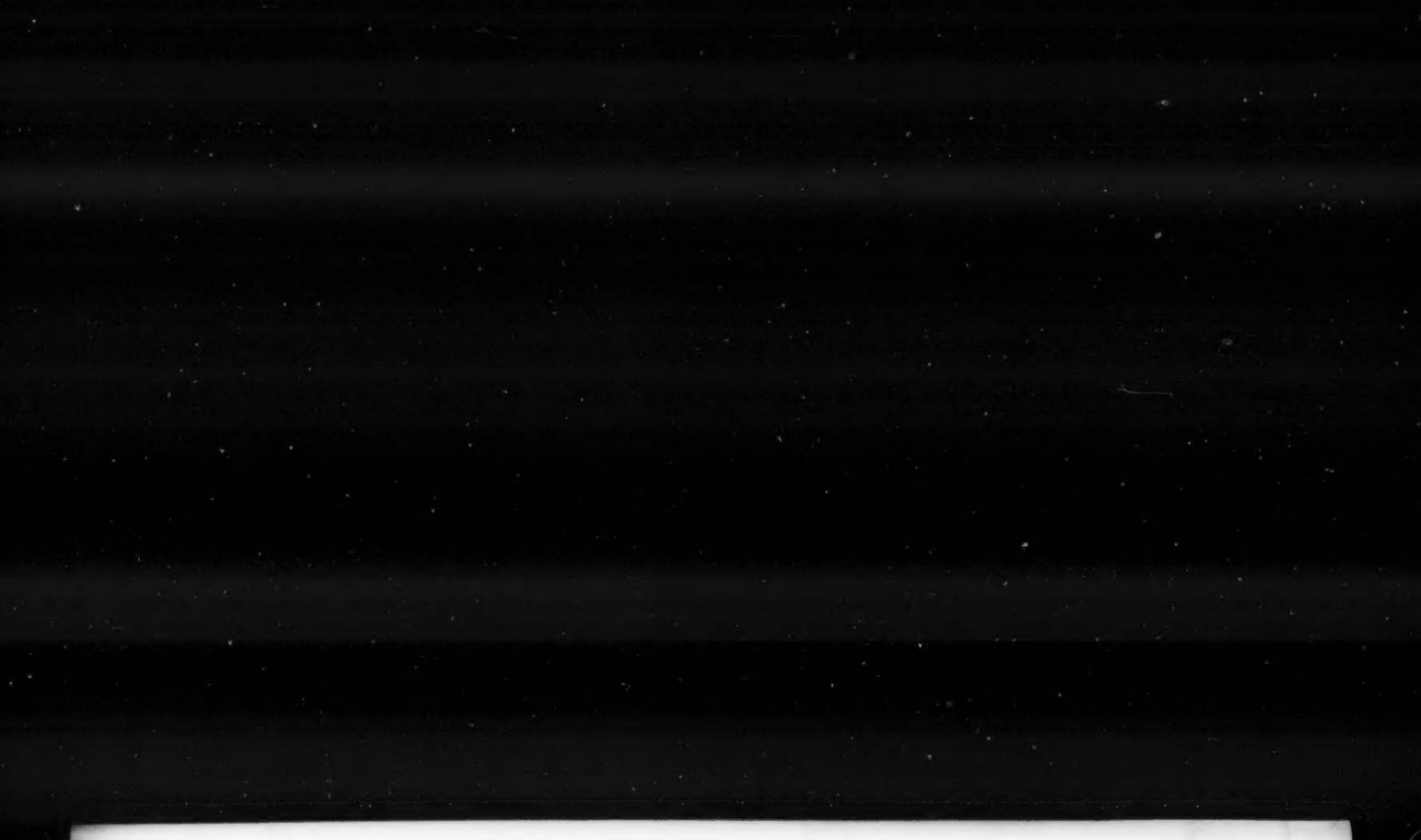

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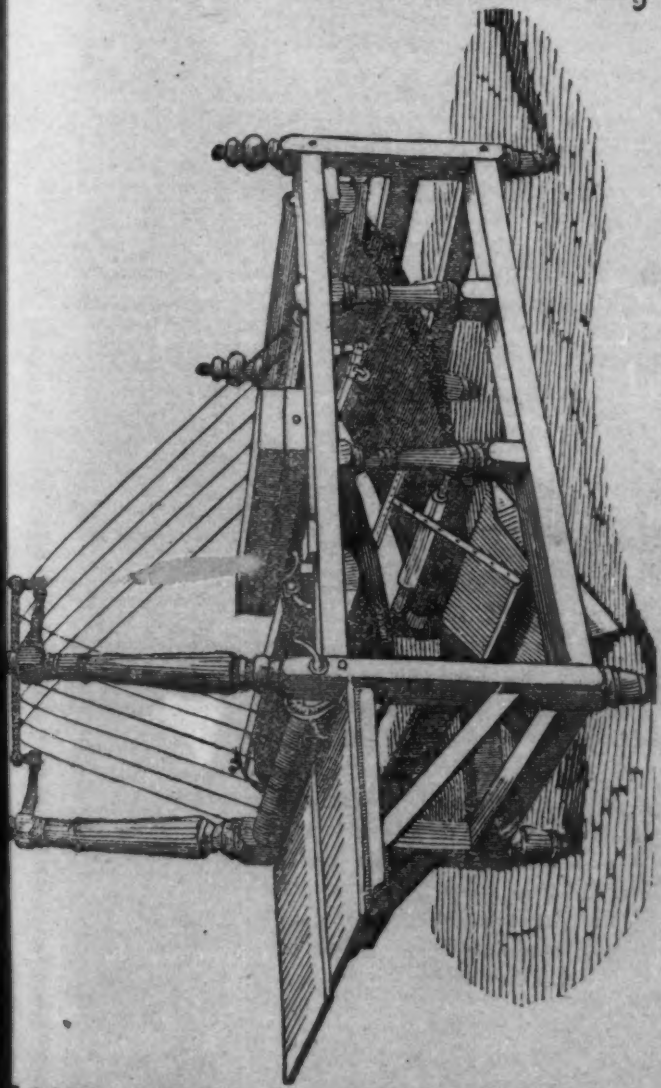

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